

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

If the Suffragette knows how to work and to fight, she certainly also knows how to play. Ever since Monday the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, have been full of a delightful company of happy people, enjoying to the full the entertainment provided by the members of the Women's Social and Political Union. The timid visitor, entering with hesitancy, has been converted at sight into a friend, and after a few minutes has found herself conversing without embarrassment with an ex-prisoner who has done time for obstructing the police or for breaking windows: when at last she has torn herself away from the happy gathering she has wondered how many of her preconceived ideas she must cast to the winds.

What to See at the Fair.

For those who have only one day to spend at the Fair the difficulty is to pick and to choose which of the

many pleasures to enjoy. There are the stalls to see and to purchase from—each one of them a work of beauty in itself, with its quaint Old English sign hanging above it. There are the sports organised by the Men's Political Union. There are the plays and entertainments in the theatre, generously contributed by leading actresses. There are the palmists to consult, the artists to paint portraits, the prison cell to be visited, and, last but not least, the dainty fare of the refreshment stall to be indulged in.

Prospects of the Week.

Of course the Fête has its serious side, which Suffragettes are not likely to forget—the importance of raising £ s. d. for the campaign funds; and if the first two days are any guide as to the result, the success of the entertainment from this point of view is likely to be no less great than from that of adding to the pleasure of all concerned. Next week we shall be able to tell our readers just what the financial result has been, but the value of the Fête on the social side will never be able to be counted up.

Welcome Faces.

It is only on rare occasions that the members of the Women's Social and Political Union are able to meet together in large numbers except at political gatherings, and the pleasure on the present occasion has been all the greater because so many have only recently been released from Holloway prison. The presence of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence has been an unexpected and happy surprise, both to herself and to many of the visitors. When she was sentenced a fortnight ago to a month's imprisonment it seemed as though she would only be able to visit the Fête in spirit, and that her body would be in detention elsewhere; but the fates have proved more kind, and she was able to secure her release on bail in good time to be at the opening ceremony.

The Premier Silenced.

On the political side the Union has not been idle during the past week. As our last number went to

press a most effective protest was being made in the City Temple. Mr. Asquith had arranged to speak there on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Mansfield House. He went to the meeting and rose to speak. But not a single sentence did he complete. Each time that he essayed to address the audience a woman called out to him from some part of the building reminding him of his illiberal attitude towards the women of the country. At last, after a quarter of an hour of vain endeavour, he left the meeting, and the other speakers were listened to quietly.

Why It was Done.

The success of this protest from the point of view of those who made it was the greatest which has yet attended any demonstration of this kind. For the first time the Prime Minister has found himself driven off the platform by women. This is admitted by all concerned. But there are many people who do not understand why a protest of this kind has to be made, who think that it is at once the extreme limit of bad manners and a serious injury to the cause. This would be true if woman suffrage were a new issue and politicians were prepared to treat it fairly. But the exact opposite is the case. Woman suffrage has been before the country for 50 years, and politicians of the type of Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George have been scheming to trick women all this time. Now when a mean trick is played on an individual it may be better to suffer wrong than to show active resentment, but when a trick is played upon a whole class, in consequence of which countless people are made to suffer, then an active protest is not merely justifiable but a moral duty. As to bad manners, those who act contrary to public policy cannot complain on this score. A man who blocks up a public thoroughfare must expect the public to trespass on his private ground; a man who commits a crime renders himself liable to all kinds of punishment, every one of which would under ordinary circumstances be bad manners. Finally, an active protest against an insulting proposition cannot do injury to the cause; what would

be injurious would be to allow our opponents to cheat us with impunity.

Our Critics.

Of course, as we anticipated, there are plenty of critics who think they can teach us a lesson on this subject. They fall into several classes. In a class by himself comes Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, the leader of the Labour Party, who is rapidly becoming a faithful henchman of the Liberal Party. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said:—

One would prefer to be oblivious to, and to forget, the degrading and disgusting scene at which we have just been looking. Those of us who have any regard for womanhood, those of us who have any ideals regarding woman's intelligence and woman's conduct, must simply bow the head in shame.

The consequences of this demonstration must be felt not in such meetings as this, but in the House of Commons itself. For my own part, if I felt that the cause had come to this I would go into the Lobby every time against it.

This unctuous utterance comes ill from a leader of working men who have never hesitated to use such methods when occasion demanded them. Mr. MacDonald knows quite well that when men were demanding the franchise they did far worse things, and if they had not done so they would not have forced open the door which legislators were trying to close against them. A distinguished member of his own party, Mr. T. D. Benson, wrote recently:—

Of course, when men wanted the franchise, they did not behave in the unruly manner of our feminine friends. They were perfectly constitutional in their agitation. In Bristol, I find they only burnt the Mansion House, the Custom House, the Bishop's Palace, the Excise Office, three prisons, four toll houses, and forty-two private dwellings and warehouses, and all in a perfectly constitutional and respectable manner. Numerous constitutional fires took place in the neighbourhoods of Bedford, Cambridge, Canterbury and Devises. Four men were respectfully hanged at Bristol and three in Nottingham. The Bishop of Lichfield was nearly killed, and the Archbishop of Canterbury was insulted, spat upon, and with great difficulty rescued from amidst the yells and execrations of a violent and angry mob.

and adds:—"I think we are well qualified to advise the Suffragettes to follow our example, to be respectable and peaceful in their methods like we were, and then they will have our sympathy and support."

The "Daily News."

Then we have the criticism of the Liberal Press, headed by the *Daily News*, which devotes to the meeting a leading article, and says:—"The frenzied people who, in the name of Women's Suffrage, are guilty of such an outrage, are beyond the appeals of reason or decency." We turn to the front page of the paper on which the meeting is reported and find in a parallel column the account of another meeting (the servant protest in the Albert Hall) in which interruptions from Liberals are chronicled. Does the *Daily News* censure these? Not at all. It gleefully details them, saying:—

Pantomime is the only word that can be used to describe the "great Albert Hall protest meeting against the Servant Tax"—as it has been boomed by a section of the Tory Press—which was held last night.

From first to last the meeting was in a state of uproar. The speeches of Ellen, Countess of Desart, who presided, and the other speakers were interrupted by hisses, wails, cries of dissent, and loud laughter to such an extent that at times the orators on the platform could not be heard.

The methods of the organizers were designed to prevent opposition of any kind, but it was plain that many warm supporters of the Bill were present.

That shows up the hypocrisy of the whole criticism. It is a piece of special pleading, delivered with the tongue in the cheek in the hope of taking in women. Fortunately it does not take in the W.S.P.U.

The "Manchester Guardian."

Another Liberal paper, the *Manchester Guardian*, says it can understand the attitude of those who say, "Let the heavens fall, provided justice be done," but the militant Suffragists go beyond this. We were at first inclined to suppose that this remark had a subtle reference to the apotheosis of the Prime Minister, but on reading the context we found that we were mistaken, and that what was intended was to show that Suffragists had been given by the Government a splendid promise, and their attack on the Premier was a piece of pure wilfulness. This is really too absurd. In spite of the agitation for votes for women the Government are introducing a Bill for votes for men, with an off chance (which is entirely illusory) that some women might be brought in under an amendment. Yet the *Manchester Guardian* would have us grateful for this proposal, which no men politicians would look at for an instant. Let us remind the *Manchester Guardian* what the late Dr. Cooper said in 1908, when he was a member of the House of Commons:—

My political life began as a member of the Reform League. It is in my recollection that in 1867, and also in 1884, very few public speakers who were opposed to the extension of the parliamentary franchise to men, whether members of the Cabinet or otherwise, could utter a single word at a public meeting. Meetings were broken up, platforms stormed, and their occupants had to escape the best way they could.

Women deprived of their rights are still human, and have every bit as much justification as men for showing their displeasure.

The Conservative Press.

Next we have the criticisms of the Conservative papers. It is only necessary to contrast these with their remarks only four months ago, when Conservative M.P.s with far less excuse prevented Mr. Asquith from speaking in the House of Commons. Thus the *Globe* says to-day:—

Nothing in the world can justify such a scene as that in the City Temple yesterday. . . . A hearing was refused him by a

horde of yelling women, who seem to think that they prove their fitness for public life by outraging its most elementary conventions.

Four months ago the same paper wrote:—

Shameless in the prostitution of his high office, it is little wonder that honest indignation refuses him a hearing when he attempts to excuse or justify his actions.

From many other illustrations which might be given, we clip the following from the *Daily Express*, which is quite delightful:—

Any Minister, even a Prime Minister, may be refused a hearing in the House of Commons when strong party passions have been let loose. That experience has come both to Mr. Balfour and to Mr. Asquith. But to howl down the Prime Minister in a place of worship, where no political matter is in question, is sheer ruffianism.

Of course, as the *Daily Express* would be the first to point out, where any other question was concerned, when a place of worship is used for secular purposes it ceases to be entitled to any special respect.

Members of Parliament.

Finally we are informed that inside the House there has been great indignation, that the Prime Minister received a great ovation when he presented himself next day and that over a hundred M.P.'s have signed a manifesto condemning the action of the W.S.P.U., and adding that such conduct, if persisted in,

must make the organisation of an effective platform campaign in favour of women's suffrage difficult, if not impossible, and it gravely imperils the parliamentary prospects of women's suffrage in the coming session.

Of course, M.P.s are at liberty to sign as many manifestoes of this kind as they please. As they have never conducted a platform campaign in favour of Woman Suffrage we shall not lose by their ceasing to do what they have never done. Our own platform campaign we shall continue more vigorously than ever. As to the prospects next session there would be none at all if we were all complacent. When by militant action we have compelled the Government to give us a real opportunity, private members of Parliament will act according to their party instructions.

The "Nottingham Guardian."

In refreshing contrast to the hypocritical criticism on every side to which we have referred, we have pleasure in noting the manly and straightforward attitude adopted in the leading article of the *Nottingham Guardian*, which says:—

Much nonsense has been spoken and written about the antics of the Women Suffragists. Some extra wise people have been telling them that if they would only resort to constitutional methods they would advance their cause more rapidly. People who say this, however, have not studied the history of their own country. The English people are so apathetic about public questions, and so difficult to rouse, that something in the nature of a political earthquake is always necessary for the purpose. No one ever gets anything of a political nature without making a "row" about it, and the greater the "row" the sooner the thing wanted is obtained. This has always been so, and probably always will be so.

The leader-writer goes on to point out that few, if any, of those who recommend constitutional methods have probably ever heard of Miss Lydia Becker, or her constitutional agitation, extending over many years, and adds that if the militant Suffragists were to cease their efforts the whole movement would collapse the next day.

The Case of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

We have received from a great number of members of the W.S.P.U. their congratulations upon the release, on bail, of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. Our readers will remember that her trial at Bow Street was highly irregular, and in consequence her counsel, Mr. Henle,

applied for a certiorari, so that the conviction might be quashed. The first step was taken on Friday, when a rule nisi was granted; on Saturday she was released on bail. The actual hearing, when the rule will be argued before the High Court, will probably be one day next week. In the meanwhile we are working hard to secure the thousand new subscribers to the paper to give to Mrs. Lawrence as a Christmas present.

The Other Prisoners.

The remaining cases of Suffrage prisoners at Bow-street were dealt with on Friday and Tuesday, when they received various sentences. A flagrant case of miscarriage of justice was that of Mr. Duval, who brought overwhelming evidence to rebut the testimony of the police, but who, nevertheless, was convicted by the magistrate; his real offence undoubtedly was that he was seen taking the number of an offending policeman. The twenty-one women committed for trial will come up on Tuesday next at Newington Sessions.

The Pit Brow Women.

The crooked ways of the politician are well illustrated by the case of the pit brow women. It will be remembered that in the Mines Bill an amendment was carried in Committee to exclude women from work at the pit brow. A great agitation was accordingly started, and a promise was obtained from Mr. Masterman that this clause should be deleted when the Bill came back to the House on the Report stage. This promise has been kept in the letter. But another amendment has been introduced by the Government and carried, providing that "no boy, girl, or woman shall be employed in lifting, carrying, or moving anything so heavy as to be likely to cause injury to the boy, girl, or woman." On the face of it this amendment seems reasonable; no one ought to be set work likely to injure them, but if that is so why is it not extended to men also? We very much fear that this amendment is simply intended to secure by a back-stairs method the same result as the original amendment which has been withdrawn. Our opinion is apparently shared by the *Daily Chronicle*, for it heads its column with the words, "No More Pit Brow Lasses." Women will never get justice till they get the vote.

The Women of Persia send us a Telegram.

The women of Persia are joining in the national demonstrations against the Russian advance. The *Daily Chronicle* says that they have organised processions for women only, and women speakers have appeared in the crowded mosques and have harangued the populace in the squares. They are also playing a prominent part in enforcing the anti-Russian boycott by violent means, smashing the windows of shops selling Russian goods, and compelling men to remove Russian collars. They have also dispatched the following telegram to the "Women's Suffragist Committee," London:—

The Russian Government by an ultimatum demands us to surrender to her our independence; the ears of the men of Europe are deaf to our cries, could you women not come to our help?

In reply the Women's Social and Political Union have telegraphed the following message:—

Your touching appeal received; unhappily we cannot move British Government to give political freedom even to us their own countrywomen. We are equally powerless to influence their action towards Persia. Our hearts deeply moved by sympathy with Persian sisters and admiration for their militant patriotic deeds.

THE TRUTH HAS MADE US FREE.

It is a strange experience to emerge suddenly and almost unexpectedly from the solitude and silence of a prison cell into the din and babel of political conflict. Especially strange it has been to me to read the leading articles, political notes, press letters and manifestoes in which during the past two weeks inveterate opponents of our movement and (as I believe) well-meaning allies and friends have made common cause in pouring out condemnation upon the Women's Social and Political Union.

The dispraise of our enemies is the only flattery that true fighters in a great cause should find acceptable. Their praise is the only humiliation from which we need to shrink. The argument or appeal of doubting and faint-hearted friends must be taken at its proper valuation.

The essence of all these letters and all these manifestoes is the denial of the human and divine equality of men and women. They are one and all based upon a negation. They plead that conditions which no body of men would dream of accepting should commend themselves to the acceptance of women. They urge that in circumstances where men would be compelled by honour to fight for freedom, women are compelled by dishonour to fawn and cringe, since it is only by favour and not by right that they can hope to secure their emancipation. They suggest that resistance to wrong on the part of women is not only futile but is calculated to stir resentment even within the breasts of those who believe in the justice of woman's claim for enfranchisement. Every sentence is a well-meaning but stupid impertinence.

The writers of these appeals have never understood the significance of the woman's movement. They are standing between the fighting forces of negation on the one hand and the fighting forces of affirmation on the other, and they understand nothing of the realities or the actualities of either. They are of those who halt between two opinions. There is no room for them in the decisive conflict that is coming.

We of the Women's Social and Political Union have dared to affirm the human and divine equality of man and woman. On that affirmation we are prepared to stake our honour, our liberty, and our life. Upon that affirmation we take our stand against all the material and spiritual forces of negation and denial. Had we to pit our solitary soul against the whole universe we would not shrink from it. Though sun and moon and stars were to thunder "No," were we engulfed forthwith in eternal night, the spirit within us would stand erect and send back the challenge "Yes."

It is against that affirmation that the politicians are fighting. It is against that affirmation that they strive in vain with their police and their prisons, with their tricks of Parliamentary procedure and with their word spinning and their chicanery and their political press. They are up against something that is more than they can understand, something that is inexorable and indestructible.

They cannot fight against Truth. And the Truth has made us free.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY FAIR.

We venture to say that even Mr. Scrooge, glum anti-everything (including, of course, anti-Suffragist), sinner as he was, if he could be spirited to the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, any time this week, would be obliged to enjoy himself! Indeed, we should very much like to take Mr. Scrooge there. First we would take him through the Fair itself, put him on the Merry-Go-Round, feed him with roasted chestnuts, take him round to the side-shows, and then conduct him to the beautifully appointed little theatre. Here we should sit him down and spread before him such a feast of delights that his glumness would perceptibly melt away, and from Scrooge the misogynist he would become jolly Uncle Scrooge, ever with his hand in his pocket ready to pull out his purse and give all his nieces and nephews anything and everything they wanted from the stalls! So, gentle reader, if you number a Scrooge among your acquaintances, you know where to take him.

Those who were fortunate enough to be present at the opening on Monday afternoon will not soon forget the impression of gaiety and light-heartedness, beautiful colouring, and pretty costumes, all seen against a background of exquisite mural designs from the clever brush of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst. The Portman Rooms are transformed for the nonce into a Village Market Hall; painted signs hang over each of the stalls denoting the

lavender, and looking very sweet and pretty in their quaint dresses. Not far away is the old-world roundabout, which is propelled by members of the M.P.U. in costume, and here one can have a ride in a very modern "Black Maria" for the small charge of fourpence. Then to the right merry laughter denotes that there is no bitterness in the aim of those who are having a shot at the Anti-Suffrage Shies! We pass on quickly, for the sight of roasted chestnuts, being sold by an old peasant woman, is too irresistible. The entertainments in the theatre are described on another page.

The general aspect of the Fair is proof positive that the militant woman can be just as feminine as anybody else, for on the many stalls the goods are the product of distinctive feminine arts. "Woolies" and blouses are to be had in abundance; the decorated pin cushion and embroidered cushion-cover appear in great profusion, and here are to be seen beautiful fat turkeys, fowls of all descriptions, hams and jams, and everything a housewife's heart delights in.

On Tuesday afternoon the Fête was opened by H.H. the Rance of Sarawak. Mrs. Percy Dearmer presided, and in a speech that everyone heartily applauded, said she was glad to have this public opportunity of expressing her adhesion to the cause. The women were not fighting for themselves, but for generations yet unborn. Ultimately they were fighting for men. Just in so far as they ennobled the women they ennobled the men, and just so far as they enslaved the women they degraded the men.

The Rance of Sarawak declared herself in complete accord with the woman's movement, and said she would do anything in the world to further the cause. The most beauti-



[Photo: F. Kehrbaum.]

wares for sale, and every available corner is occupied by side-shows and other attractions.

The Tea Room—and who will neglect to visit this—has for its decorative scheme some notably original designs, including one of a pelican (emblematic of self-sacrifice), and another of a broad arrow, and underneath is a dado giving a pictorial history of the Suffrage movement.

The "OYEZ" of the bellman on Monday afternoon drew the crowd to the platform, when the appearance of Lady Sybil Smith, the Hon. Lady Johnston, and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence was the signal for an enthusiastic burst of cheering. Although her release from Holloway took place on Saturday afternoon, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's appearance was a great surprise to many present. Lady Sybil Smith said that the Fair would prove that Suffragettes loved beauty as well as justice, and could please as well as fight. Then she called upon the Hon. Lady Johnston, who in a charming little speech said there had never been such a good reason for making a success of a Fair as there was at present. She was proud to be a Suffragette, and if anyone called "Suffragette" after her in the street she would feel as honoured as if they had called her "Patriot!" She believed in the power of her own sex, and she believed that the wonderful Spirit of God, who commanded His light to shine out of darkness, shone in the hearts of women. She had great pleasure in declaring the Fair open, and wished it every success. Miss Mary Guest, a dear little maiden of about five years, then came forward and presented Lady Johnston with a bouquet. This was to have closed the ceremonial part of the afternoon, but a few words from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence were loudly called for. Mrs. Lawrence expressed her delight at being there, and said it just seemed like a fairy tale that the dearest wish of her heart should have been fulfilled.

Just then there broke on our ears:—

Hark! how the cries in every street
Make lanes and alleys ring;
With their goods and wares, both nice and rare
All in a pleasant lofty strain;
Come buy my gudgeons fine and new,
Old cloaths to change for earthenware,
Come taste and try before you buy,
Here's dainty Poplin pears,
Diddle diddle, diddle dumplings, ho!
With walnuts nice and brown,
Let none despise the merry, merry cries
Of famous London Town!

It was the old London Street cries, and the sellers came trooping by bearing their wares—matches, oranges, and sweet

ful thing in the world was the rôle of mother. If the men realised that, she thought it would not be long before the Suffrage movement was as successful as they desired. The way in which abuse had been levelled at the Suffragettes for the gallant way they had tried to get their rights made her positively furious. No woman accustomed to every nice thing in life would go and risk her life unless she felt that the cause was a very great one. She thought it was absurd nonsense to say that the women did these things because they liked to be talked about.

Little Miss Joan Willock, a dainty little maid of four, presented her bouquets with the words: "I am very glad indeed to present these bouquets, and when I am a big girl I shall be very proud."

On Wednesday afternoon the Fair was opened by the Princess Bariatinsky, Dr. Ethel Smyth in the chair. The beautiful speech of the Princess, in which she spoke with enthusiasm of the noble work of the Suffragettes, will be given in VOTES FOR WOMEN next week.

The Fair is open till the end of this week.

Entrance 1s. in the afternoon; 6d. after 6.30 p.m.

THE NEXT PROTEST.

The number of volunteers for the next militant protest is growing rapidly. Here are some extracts from letters received:—

Please place my name down for the next deputation. I was present at the last one. Success must be ours, cost what it may.

Will you put my name down for the next deputation or raid? I am so very sorry I have not volunteered before. I am an awful coward and have never been able to get up the courage. I have a splendid example in those brave women last week. They were wonderful. Lloyd George is enough to rouse even the most timid woman to militant action, and militancy is the only thing that will win.

We shall be glad if intending volunteers will send in their names to Miss Pankhurst, 4, Clements Inn.

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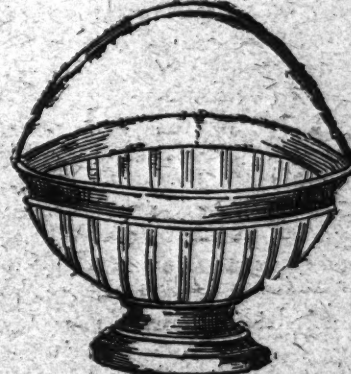
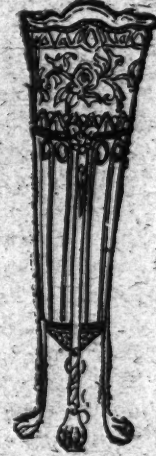
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GREAT PROTEST AT THE CITY TEMPLE.

Mr. Asquith Refused a Hearing. Women Demand a Government Measure.

In pursuance of their settled policy the Women's Social and Political Union made an effective protest at the City Temple on Wednesday in last week, and succeeded in reducing the Prime Minister to silence. Mr. Asquith was present to speak on behalf of Mansfield House University Settlement, but every time he endeavoured to utter a sentence he was met by interruptions from the women, who had determined to refuse him a hearing because he had decided to refuse them a hearing at the ballot-box. At the end of about ten minutes Mr. Asquith gave up the attempt and left by a back door.

Needless to say, the accounts which appeared in the Press about "shrieks," "screams," and "strident cries" are quite untrue, and as to hysterics the only hysterical behaviour came from members of the audience, some of whom lost all control of themselves in their endeavour to strike the women either with their fists or with missiles. Fortunately, though many of the women were bruised none of them were seriously injured.

THE MEETING.

No one would have thought, judging merely by the quiet and orderly queues that lined up outside the City Temple last Wednesday night, that in a very short time the interior of the building would present an unparalleled scene of disorder and confusion.

The City Temple was crowded to the doors. Before the meeting songs were sung by the Mansfield House Choir, and among these was one which referred to fighting for freedom.

Disturbances were evidently expected. There was free admission to the meeting, and steps had been taken to cope with systematic rowdiness. Every approach to the City Temple was guarded by a strong body of uniformed police, of whom a reserve force was kept in the basement, while a number of plain clothes detectives were posted among the audience near the rostrum. Several hundred stewards were also on duty. Although the occasion was purely philanthropic in character the church appeared to be in a state of siege.

The Times says that, "apparently in the fear of a renewal of the recent disturbances at Westminster, a strong patrol of police was on duty in Holborn Viaduct, and every shop window in the neighbourhood of the City Temple was guarded."

After the singing was over the chairman and Mr. Asquith mounted the rostrum. The chairman, the Rev. W. B. Selbie, began by appealing to the audience to sit quiet if any interruptions were made, and remarked that if interruptors had to be dealt with the stewards would know what to do. Then he called upon Mr. Asquith to address the meeting.

No sooner had Mr. Asquith advanced to Mr. Campbell's desk when a gentleman rose and asked a question about foreign affairs. He was immediately hurried out of the meeting. Mr. Asquith began his speech as follows:—"Ladies and gentlemen, I have come here to-night. He got no further. A lady rose in the audience, called out "Votes for Women, Mr. Asquith," and exhibited a banner with the words: "We want a Government measure."

The scene that followed may well be described by the daily papers as "scandalous," "An extraordinary uproar," "Scenes of grave disorder" (Times), "A disgraceful scene," and well may the Daily News say that: "The scene stands unparalleled even in the stormy annals of the Suffrage war."

But it must be quite clear to an impartial mind that there was nothing scandalous about the interruption or the way in which this woman rose and showed her banner. The "scandal" began when the stewards, tumbling over each other, began forcibly to eject her from the meeting. The whole audience seemed to rise at this point; some booed, some hissed, others cheered, and cries of "Gag her," "Chuck her out," "Leave her alone," could be heard above the din. At last a little order was restored, and Mr. Asquith began to speak again. "I was saying I have come here to-night." But no sooner had he begun than another woman rose in the audience. Her interruption was scarcely heard, as the audience made such a noise. As she was being turned out of the meeting in a very brutal fashion it was found that another woman had in the meantime chained herself to one of the pillars of the rostrum. This caused great consternation. The chain could not be filed. The stewards appeared to think that if they pulled at her enough perhaps the chain would snap.

Gagged with a Veil.

It is not difficult to imagine what this young woman must have suffered! A chain was round her waist, and she was cruelly pulled about, while stewards put their hands over her mouth to stifle her voice. As she was very near the rostrum she managed first, however, to tell Mr. Asquith that the women would have no Manhood Suffrage; that they demanded equal voting rights for men and women, and that he must make Votes for Women a Government question. Mr. Asquith by this time appeared to be very nervous, and every now and again he

turned to the chairman, whispered a few words, and turned back again to the scene before him. In the end the stewards stuffed her veil into her mouth and tied her handkerchief round her face. Thus gagged and nearly stifled she could only utter a few incoherent sounds; she was there until Mr. Asquith left, when she produced a key herself and unlocked the padlock.

During this commotion another Suffragette threw a ball of paper on to the rostrum; it contained the following words:—"Woman Suffrage must be a Government measure"; "We demand votes on the same terms as men"; "To give in to the righteous is to be truly strong."

After this the meeting calmed down a little, and Mr. Asquith managed to say: "Are you going to listen to me or to the interrupters?" Evidently the audience had no intention of listening to Mr. Asquith. No sooner was another interruption made than the whole audience was once more in a state of confusion. One or two women rose and unfurled their banners; another one blew a police whistle. As soon as Mr. Asquith was able to speak a few more words he announced that if he could not have silence he would go. He added a few words about Mansfield House, and, as the disorder continued, he shook hands with the chairman and left the platform. He had been facing the audience, says the Daily News, "for exactly eight minutes, but had spoken for barely one."

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald was then called upon to speak, and, strange as it may seem, when one recalls how Mr. MacDonald extolled the actions of the men throughout the strike riots in the summer, he condemned the women who were fighting for their liberty in the following words:—

"Those of us who have any regard for womanhood, those of us who have any ideals regarding woman's intelligence and woman's conduct must simply bow the head with shame. The consequences of this demonstration must be felt not in such meetings as this, but in the House of Commons itself. (A voice: "We want it felt there.") I, for my part, if I felt that the cause had come to this, would go into the lobby every time against it."

But Suffragettes have learned to what straits a liberty-loving M.P. can come when he finds himself on the same platform as a Cabinet Minister, and when the questions that are put happen to be questions on Votes for Women.

After Mr. MacDonald's speech there was a general shuffling of feet, and one by one and two by two people left the hall. Very few seemed to take any further interest in what was being said by other speakers.

The majority of those present were most sympathetic to the Suffragists, and loud protests were made against any rough handling of the women. One man hysterically attempted, happily in vain, to strike at women being led down the aisle by stewards, but a number of men in his vicinity called for him to be turned out. "That blackguard should be put outside," exclaimed more than one man, and at last a steward very properly warned him that a repetition of the offence would lead to his ejection.

THE STORY BY ONE WHO TOOK PART.

All the busses going Citywards were swarmed on Wednesday night. We had to board one at a flying leap to get in at all, and then found all the passengers, like ourselves, bound for the City Temple!

Mr. Asquith was coming to speak on the Mansfield House University Settlement, and the prospect of the Suffragettes coming too created quite an atmosphere of excitement all down the line of people waiting till the doors opened. "How many would turn up, what they would do and would the police spot them going in?" They were the one topic of conversation during the three-quarters of an hour we were wedged in that waiting line. At last the clock chimed the quarter. The doors opened and we rushed in helter-skelter. The front seats were filled with ticket-holders, but we spied two vacant places in the middle of a pew about the centre of the hall, and squeezed our way there over the hassocks. Five minutes later, not a seat remained empty; from floor to ceiling serried ranks of humanity, looking, most of them, as though they expected something far more exciting than talk about a University Settlement, even from the Prime Minister's lips.

The proceedings started with a concert. The choir sang quite nicely, and one of Mendelssohn's "Lieder" sent one up into the clouds . . . to come down to earth again with a thud, as bursts of cheering, waving of handkerchiefs, and a tornado of clapping announced the arrival of the Prime Minister. Smiling and bland he stepped on to the platform, and we rose and clapped him too, right heartily; for it was really delightful of him to give us another opportunity of meeting him face to face.

The chairman got up. He said he would be brief, so that the Prime Minister, who could only spare them a short time, should speak as long as possible. He had been warned there might be a disturbance. If anything of the sort should happen, he begged the audience to remain unmoved. "He had great pleasure in calling upon Mr. Asquith," who stepped to the front. "Ladies and gentlemen," he began. "Votes for Women, Mr. Asquith," shouted Suffragette Number One, rising up from the centre of the

hall, directly facing him. "No Government trickery for us." Mr. Asquith, clipped in the middle of his first sentence, stood stock still, staring, so she went on: "We demand that you should bow to the will of the people and give women the vote; fulfil your pledges in the letter and the spirit. How dare you talk about a Manhood Suffrage Bill and leave women out?" By this time the audience had forgotten their chairman's admonitions, and were getting excited. "Sit down," roared the pro-Liberals and anti-Suffragists. "I won't sit down," hurled back Suffragette Number One, defiantly, and, to Mr. Asquith: "We shall not allow you to speak until you give us the vote." It was quite a minute or two before the stewards got her out, and as she reached the door I saw a very angry man shake his fist in her face: "You ought to be ashamed of yourself, you ought," he shouted. "On the contrary, I'm very proud of myself," she retorted before she vanished.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

When we went to the City Temple to tell Mr. Asquith what we thought of his Manhood Suffrage Bill we knew perfectly well what lay before us. Every woman who went knew that she had violence to endure—violence for daring to give her opinion about Government trickery. Imagine what it means to go to such a place, knowing beforehand that the moment you raise your voice to send your message men will knock and push you about with great violence, and will not hesitate to do you a physical injury! Could an hysterical person face such an ordeal? Nay, indeed. One needs to take one's nervous system in an iron grip, and keep one's head level in order to deliver one's message. Our women were perfectly calm, perfectly collected; there was no shrieking, no screaming. Once there was a cry of pain. All the hysteria, the shouting, and screaming came from the enemy. I myself was waiting to give Mr. Asquith my opinion about his Manhood Suffrage Bill, but he turned tail and fled before my speech was due.

Shall we ever do such a thing again? Yes, indeed, to-morrow, if the chance comes, and after to-morrow, and every day in every week, until we have won our political freedom!

Are we ashamed after hearing Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's rebuke? No, a thousand times no. We shall make our protests louder than ever in consequence of his rebuke. Shame on you, Mr. MacDonald, to dare to say such things. If you cannot help Womanhood better than to rebuke, you had far better hide your head, and be silent, and let us work out our own salvation. You, my sisters, who are not in this battle, come and help us to victory!

A. K. W.

PRESS COMMENTS.

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

We can understand, and sometimes even admire, the state of mind of those who are for pulling the skirts down to get justice. But the militant suffragists have latterly got beyond that state.

THE DAILY NEWS.

The frenzied people who, in the name of Women's Suffrage, are guilty of such an outrage are beyond the appeals of reason or decency.

DAILY EXPRESS.

Any Minister, even a Prime Minister, may be refused a hearing in the House of Commons when strong party passions have been let loose. That experience has come both to Mr. Balfour and to Mr. Asquith. But to howl down the Prime Minister in a place of worship, where no political matter is in question, is sheer ruffianism. They are raising a good cause, converting lukewarm supporters into bitter enemies, and making keen champions lukewarm. So long as they continue there can be no votes for women.

THE NOTTINGHAM GUARDIAN.

Much nonsense has been spoken and written about the antics of the Women Suffragists. Some extra wise people have been telling them that if they would only resort to constitutional methods they would advance their cause more rapidly. People who say this, however, have not studied the history of their own country. The English people are so apathetic about public questions, and so difficult to rouse, that something in the nature of a political earthquake is always necessary for the purpose. No one every gets anything of a political nature without making a "row" about it, and the greater the "row" the sooner the thing wanted is obtained. This has always been so, and probably always will be so. People who wish to adhere to constitutional methods probably never heard of Miss Lydia Becker. This lady, forty or fifty years ago, devoted herself to the cause of Women Suffrage, and devoted her life to it. She was a woman of large culture and charming personality; but the only result of her efforts was that she was continually caricatured in the comic papers by people who had evidently never seen her. Miss Becker's life work produced no effect whatever upon public opinion. She spent her life in vain, so far as the cause of Women Suffrage was concerned, simply because she never resorted to anything more than constitutional methods. And where Miss Becker failed anyone else

would have failed. Public opinion would have taken no more notice of constitutional methods for securing Women's Suffrage than it takes of a breath of wind. A few people might have feared. There might have been a few sneers and smiles at afternoon tea parties, and there the matter would have ended. No progress would have been made until the crack of doom. It was not until the militant Suffragists took the matter in hand that the claims of women were listened to, and if the militant Suffragists were to cease their efforts the whole movement would collapse the next day. Constitutional methods for advancing the cause of Women's Suffrage are not even worth thinking about.

WESTMINSTER GAZETTE.

We do not propose to waste words in denouncing the scandalous scene—except to say we are convinced it does serious injury to the cause it is intended to help.

THE EVENING NEWS.

We regret, as we have always regretted, such scenes as that which occurred last night at the City Temple, but has it ever struck the Prime Minister that the Servant Tax and the Manhood Suffrage Bill are the two strongest weapons that could by any possibility have been put into the hands of the excitable ladies who shouted him down? If women are to be trampled on because they have not votes then, however much we may regret it, the point of view of the anti-Suffragist is likely to undergo a complete change.

MR. RUNCIMAN AT BOLTON.

Local members of the W.S.P.U. attended a meeting of the Young Liberal League in the Temperance Hall, Bolton, on November 29, when the speaker was the Right Hon. Walter Runciman, M.P. (President of the Board of Agriculture). On arriving at the hall, Miss Lillian Williamson, hon. secretary of the Manchester W.S.P.U., sent a courteous note to the chairman, asking him to send word by the bearer if there would be question time. The chairman read the note and ignored it. Mr. Runciman having divided his speech into paragraphs, and having given notice that he was going to speak on electoral reform, Miss Williamson waited until he said: "Now I will speak of franchise reform," when she quickly interpolated: "Will there be time for a question?" The chairman briskly replied, "No!" As Miss Williamson points out, in a letter to the Manchester Guardian, "There might have been no women's agitation at all in the country." The briefest possible reference to women's votes was made by Mr. Runciman, and this only appears to have been forced from him by the interjections of the women present. After one such comment Mr. Runciman said: "It is all right; the lady is behaving quite well, and I agree with her to this extent, that all these home problems which apply with such importance to all men are concerned much more with the daily life of women." A little later he referred to the right of all people to govern themselves, when a woman ejaculated, "And women also." Mr. Runciman replied: "Well, if women will behave themselves they will attain their just ambitions all the quicker." There was an uproar, and several men shouted, "Throw her out." Another woman was asked to leave the building, and Mr. Runciman proceeded to talk about the claims of the common people and a fair voice in the government of themselves and the country. Mr. Runciman poses as a Suffragist, and this extraordinary ignoring of the claims of women is inexcusable in a Minister of the Crown.

MR. SAMUEL AT BATLEY.

Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., Postmaster-General, addressed a meeting of the Junior Liberal Association in the Victoria Hall, Batley, on November 30. The Yorkshire Post says: "There was only a small attendance, and the proceedings were decidedly chilly. Admission was strictly confined to ticket-holders, and, probably in view of the treatment accorded on the previous evening to the Premier, a large force of West Riding police was on duty at the entrances and in the precincts of the hall." Previous to the meeting Miss Mary Phillips, W.S.P.U. Organizer, had an accidental meeting with Mr. Samuel at the railway station, where she was expecting a friend. She at once approached him and said: "We don't want Manhood Suffrage; we want equality—votes for women as well as men. Will you withdraw your opposition to our claims?" An inspector and a constable seized her, and implored her to keep still. She replied: "I do not come here to keep still; I come to open my mouth, and I shall open it." Mr. Samuel was also accosted before and after the meeting outside the hall. Miss Phillips and Miss Jones addressed a large number of people for nearly three hours. When the speakers had to leave to catch a train questions were still coming in. No question time was allowed in the meeting. Only women personally known to the promoters of the meeting, or under pledge of silence, were admitted, and great precautions were taken in the issue of tickets to men also.

MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE OUT ON BAIL.

The Court Grants a Rule *Nisi* for a *certiorari* to Bring up the Conviction to be Quashed.

The irregularity of the proceedings at Bow Street when Mrs. Pethick Lawrence was sentenced to a month's imprisonment had an interesting sequel on Friday last in the Divisional Court.

Mr. Henle, instructed by Messrs. Halchett, Jones, Bisgood and Marshall, applied before Mr. Justice Hamilton and Mr. Justice Bankes for a rule *nisi* for a *certiorari* to bring up the conviction of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence to be quashed.

Mr. Henle said that before the magistrate at Bow Street on Thursday, November 23, the case against Mrs. Pethick Lawrence was proved by the evidence of two constables, and she was sentenced to one month's imprisonment without the option of a fine. Later in the day the attention of the magistrate was drawn to the fact that by some omission one of the constables had not been sworn, so that the conviction had been obtained by evidence which was not given on oath. The magistrate thereupon had Mrs. Lawrence brought back and retried her, though not until several other cases had been disposed of. On the second occasion she called evidence, but in the end the magistrate convicted her and gave her the same sentence as before. Counsel submitted that the conviction could not stand. If Mrs. Lawrence was now detained under the first sentence, it was invalid owing to the defect in the evidence; if under the second sentence, she could plead that she had already been in peril for her offence and could not be tried again.

Mr. Justice Hamilton pointed out that Rule 22 of the Crown Office Rules, 1906, required a copy of the conviction, verified by affidavit, to be handed to the officer of the court at the time of moving.

Mr. Henle said they had applied on the previous day for a copy, but it was not yet to hand.

Mr. Justice Bankes said something might turn on the form of the conviction, and it must be before them; if the copy could be obtained before the Court rose that morning they were prepared to hear the application, otherwise it must be postponed till the next sitting of the Divisional Court.

Later in the morning Mr. Henle said that he had communicated with the court at Bow Street, but he had been unable to obtain a certificate of the conviction, as none had been drawn up. He put in the register of cases heard at Bow Street; but there was nothing in that to show upon which conviction the applicant had been sentenced. But as the learned magistrate had ordered a re-hearing of the case, it was, he submitted, the obvious inference that the applicant was sentenced upon the later conviction. He submitted that neither conviction could stand. He put in three affidavits, one from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and two from Mr. Marshall, Mrs. Lawrence's solicitor; he also handed up a copy of last week's *VOTES FOR WOMEN* as a newspaper report of the case.

Proceeding, Mr. Henle said that the applicant was first convicted on testimony which was not on oath. No one could say whether the learned magistrate would have come to the same conclusion on the evidence of only one of the police constables. The second conviction could not stand because the matter was really *res judicata*. In *Wemyss v. Hopkins* (L.R., 10 Q.B., 378) Mr. Justice Blackburn had said: "I think the fact that the appellant had been convicted by justices under one Act of Parliament for what amounted to an assault is a bar to a conviction under another Act of Parliament for the same assault. The defence does not arise as a plea of *autrefois acquit*, but on the well-established rule at common law, that where a person has been convicted and punished for an offence by a court of competent jurisdiction, *transit in rem judicatum*, that is, the conviction shall be a bar to all further proceedings for the same offence, and he shall not be punished again for the same matter; otherwise there might be two different punishments for the same offence."

Mr. Henle said he would rather put it upon the ground, *Nemo debet bis vexari*. The learned judge had continued: "The only point raised is whether a defence in the nature of a plea of *autrefois convict* would extend to a conviction before two justices whose jurisdiction is created by statute. Where the conviction is by a court of competent jurisdiction, it matters not whether the conviction is by a summary proceeding before justices or by trial before a jury."

Mr. Justice Hamilton: Mr. Justice Blackburn there assumed that the first conviction was good.

Mr. Henle: The magistrate came to a decision on the first hearing and sentenced the applicant. That was a substantive conviction; after that he was *functus officio*.

Mr. Justice Hamilton: The constable who was not sworn merely confirms the evidence of the other constable on the main question whether the applicant committed the acts of wilful obstruction—acts which are not denied in the applicant's affidavit. If there is plenty of evidence on which to convict you cannot on that ground quash conviction.

Mr. Henle: There was some conflict of evidence, and on the evidence of the one constable who gave a shorter account of what happened the result of the case might have been different.

Mr. Justice Bankes then put questions to Mr. Henle as to what point he would

argue that an irregularity could not be corrected.

Mr. Henle: There was an interval of an hour and a half before the case was retried, during which interval several cases were heard. "The true test is," said Lord Coleridge, in *Reg. v. Brakenridge* (48 J.P., 293), "whether the defendant had been put in peril; and it is totally immaterial what was the ground on which he was discharged." In *Irving v. Askew* (L.R., 5 Q.B., 211) Mr. Justice Hannen said: "The judgment of the county court judge being once given, he is *functus officio*, except in so far as further powers are conferred upon him by the statutes regulating the proceedings of his court." It is the same with the decision of a court of summary jurisdiction. There are cases, no doubt, where the magistrate can correct some slip, but that is only where he is still seized of the case. What the learned magistrate purported to do here was to try the case over again. He also referred to *Reg. v. Jeffries* (22 L.T., 786).

After a few minutes' discussion between the two judges Mr. Justice Hamilton said: You may take a rule, but we do not encourage you.

This decision of the Divisional Court means that Mr. Henle had made out a *prima facie* case and that a day will be set aside by the Court for hearing the issue. It is probable that this will be one day next week.

Application for Bail.

The next step was to secure the release of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence on bail pending the hearing of the case. Application was accordingly made in the first instance to Mr. Marsham at Bow Street.

Mr. Marsham said he would like Mr. Henle first to prove to him that he had power to grant the application. After some delay Mr. Henle said that he had not found any precedent for a magistrate granting bail after a prisoner had once gone to prison; the application was accordingly withdrawn.

Later in the same day Mr. Henle appeared before Mr. Justice Hamilton to mention the case of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and to ask whether Mr. Justice Hamilton would consent to sit on the following (Saturday) morning, with Mr. Justice Bankes, as a Divisional Court, for the purpose of hearing his application for bail. Mr. Justice Hamilton said he could not do so, and that the next opportunity of applying to the Court would be Monday.

On Saturday morning, however, application was made to Mr. Justice Bucknill in Chambers for bail; no objection was offered on the part of the prosecution and bail was granted. Mr. Pethick Lawrence and Mr. Marshall accordingly went to Holloway, where bail was taken and Mrs. Lawrence was released.

On Tuesday at Bow Street, Mrs. Lawrence entered into recognisances to prosecute the case without unreasonable delay. As stated above, it is expected to be heard some time next week.

SCENE: Men's City Club in large Provincial centre.

Male Suffragist: "What do you think of the Woman's Protest in London?"

Male Anti-Suffragist: "I am very disappointed, I did hope they would not see through the Government's trick!"

A PRESENT FOR MRS. LAWRENCE.

WANTED: 1,000 NEW READERS!

Last week a special invitation was made to our readers to secure a thousand new subscribers to the paper for six months as a present for Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. A very satisfactory start has already been made. Over sixty promises were handed in at the meeting in the Kensington Town Hall last week, and in addition a number of other promises have been received through the post.

One letter is from Miss Mary Powell, who says: "I will be responsible for two more copies weekly. After seeing the appeal I went out and bought two copies, which I left with friends who are not subscribers, and I have ordered two copies from our newsagent to be sent me weekly in addition to those I regularly take and dispose of. We have just been made happy by hearing that Mrs. Pethick Lawrence has been released."

Mrs. Alice Maynell writes: "I always buy *VOTES FOR WOMEN* in admiration of the sellers as well as of the paper."

Another reader sends a cheque to cover six

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|------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Miss Killeley | 1 | New subscribers who get their | Miss H. G. Blaworthy | 1 |
| Miss Kendall | 1 | papers through a local news- | Miss E. Follett | 1 |
| Lady Lally | 1 | agent | Miss Gordon | 1 |
| Mrs. Lowe | 1 | | Capt. Gouss | 1 |
| Miss Lennax | 2 | | Miss A. Farper | 1 |
| Lady Meyer | 1 | | Miss Hughes | 1 |
| Mrs. Mitchell | 1 | | Lawrence Houseman, Esq. | 1 |
| Mrs. McLean | 1 | | Miss Hillman | 1 |
| Mrs. Nettlefold | 1 | | Miss B. M. Hastings | 1 |
| Mrs. Peterson | 1 | | Miss Hogg | 2 |
| Mrs. Redgrave | 1 | | Mrs. Kimmich | 3 |
| Miss Rachel Rubenstein | 1 | | Miss Hughes | 1 |
| Miss Shippey | 1 | | Miss Burton | 1 |
| Miss G. Townsend | 1 | | Miss Jones | 1 |
| Miss E. Thompson | 2 | | Mrs. Sanderson | 3 |
| Mrs. N. A. Webb | 1 | | Mrs. N. A. John | 6 |
| Mrs. Jackson | 1 | | Mrs. McGowan | 1 |
| | | | | |

MRS. PANKHURST IN AMERICA.

On her arrival in Milwaukee Mrs. Pankhurst was met by a large number of prominent Suffragists, who made an arch for her of large yellow chrysanthemums. In the evening she was entertained at a banquet at the Pfister Hotel. After she had spoken, the Rev. W. F. Greenman, who presided, referred to the English campaign as a bloodless revolution for world-wide liberty. In the evening Mrs. Pankhurst addressed a large audience at the Auditorium. Her visit to Wisconsin was specially interesting, as a Suffrage measure is to come up before the electorate next year. On November 13 Mrs. Pankhurst spoke for an hour and a half at the First Methodist Church in Duluth, and at the conclusion the audience asked many questions. In commenting on the meeting the *Duluth News Tribune* says:—

"Mrs. Pankhurst held her audience spell-bound. It was a great speech, if the much abused adjective may be used. . . . Her talk was at once humorous and earnest. She is slender and soft-toned and winning in manner, not at all the virago the popular fancy has painted her, but a gentlewoman with a democratic mission. . . ."

"While men and women crowded up to the rostrum to take her hand in greeting, one heard such phrases as these: 'You've converted me,' 'I held out for a long time, but I'm a Suffragist after to-night'; and from one old woman: 'You are a God-send. God give you health.'"

"In the audience culture and fashion and economic thought were evident. It was drawn from the best men and women of every field here. Indeed, Duluth has seldom sent such a representative audience to hear any speaker. It was a distinct triumph for the local Suffragists as it was a pronounced success for Duluth women in general."

"Between 800 and 900 men and women heard Mrs. Pankhurst discuss the situation in England; but the point that appealed most effectively to the audience was her declaration that the improvement of industrial conditions for women would blot out the white slave traffic."

Mrs. Pankhurst made a special appeal on behalf of the women who are fighting for the vote in Wisconsin. There was a hearty response, upon which Mrs. Pankhurst remarked: "I see you believe in deeds as well as words."

On November 15 Mrs. Pankhurst arrived in Omaha, where she was entertained to lunch by the representatives of twenty-five organizations. Beautiful decorations were the order of the day, and a colour scheme of purple, white, and green was used in elaborate detail. Large fern baskets adorned the tables, and Mrs. Pankhurst's place was marked by a basket of English violets. The gathering was a large and representative one. On Sunday, November 19, the First Methodist Church was crowded to the doors with a congregation eager to hear what Mrs. Pankhurst had to say about the Woman's Movement in England. The Rev. Mr. Williams, who presided, said that he felt justified in having her in the pulpit because of the religious character of the cause she represented.

Punch for November 27 contained a most interesting and humorous cartoon of John Bull in conversation with a non-militant Suffragist, while stones are crashing in through the window in the background. John Bull's remark to his visitor is: "I could listen more attentively, Madam, to your pleas, were it not for these concrete arguments, which I find rather distracting." The same number contains a very amusing word-sket entitled "It." After much mystery "It" proves to be the stone. . . . We need not explain further!

AT KENSINGTON TOWN HALL.

The fact that last Thursday evening's meeting was held in the Kensington Town Hall attracted a large number of strangers. Curiously interested, they followed the proceedings with great intentness, particularly the arrival and speeches of the released prisoners, ten of whom were on the platform. They had a most enthusiastic reception from the audience.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence, who presided, spoke of the magnificent part played by the prisoners in the protest of November 21, and explained, for the sake of those present for the first time, the W.S.P.U.'s anti-Government policy. He then dealt with the protest which had been made the previous night at the City Temple, pointing out that it was the most successful which had ever been made, because the Prime Minister had been obliged to leave the building without completing a single sentence. For this policy the Suffragettes had been blamed by Conservatives, who had gloried in the shouting down of Mr. Asquith in the House of Commons last July, and by Liberal newspapers, who in adjoining columns recounted with delight the interruptions by Liberals of the meeting on the same night in the Albert Hall. The Liberal critics made two excuses for their inconsistency. The first was that the City Temple was a place of worship; that was sheer hypocrisy, for when a building was used for secular uses it was for the purpose of that meeting a secular building. Secondly, they objected because they held the person of the Prime Minister sacred; Suffragettes refused to listen for a moment to such a proposition. Mr. Asquith was a man like other men, and was not entitled to any special respect when he failed in his duty.

He then called on Mrs. Mansel, the W.S.P.U. organiser for Bath, who, speaking on behalf of herself and her fellow-prisoners, said that she desired to repeat what a prisoner had once said—that one went into prison a Suffragette, but came out a living flame. In face of Mr. Asquith's insulting proposal of Manhood Suffrage it had been a relief to send these "concrete messages," as *Punch* called them, and they were ready to go to prison again and again for the vote. Speaking of prison, Mrs. Mansel said Holloway was one of the saddest places she had ever been in—a place designed to punish and to break the spirit. Women, whose business it is to preserve and to build up, could never have got together and invented such places. Prison was a microcosm of what a man-world would be if there were no women in it. It was because of the great questions bound up with Woman Suffrage that women insisted on having political power. In reply to the critics who thought stone-throwing and interrupting Cabinet Ministers' meetings so "monstrously disrespectful," Mrs. Mansel asked, did not these same critics think that the White Slave Traffic was "monstrously disrespectful"? Yet they were doing nothing to stop it. It was not so much that women wanted the vote as that the State needed the women.

Miss Barbara Wylie, another ex-prisoner, then gave a graphic description of the housing problem in Glasgow, depicting with realism the tenement buildings so closely built together that one could hardly pass between them, buildings in which families of ten and twelve live together in one room. "If women had been allowed to develop along their proper lines, and had studied architecture and house-planning, do you think," said Miss Wylie, "these houses would have been built like that?" The tribute of the medical officer of health had been: "Here is something for you women to concentrate on, but I know you can never use your influence until you tread the political path."

A description of the way in which Suffragettes had silenced the Premier on the previous night was given by one of the women who had taken part; and after questions had been answered the meeting was brought to a close.

LORD WOLMER'S VIEW.

The Town Hall was filled to overflowing on Wednesday, November 29, when Miss Pankhurst paid a visit to Birmingham. Mr. L. C. S. Amery, M.P., presided, and made a frank and straightforward statement of his position on the question of Woman Suffrage. Viscount Wolmer, in a vigorous speech, moved a resolution protesting against the Manhood Suffrage Bill. He thought that Woman Suffrage was in greater danger now than it had been during the last five years. The policy of the Government was the cleverest which they could have adopted for destroying the chances of Woman's Suffrage while professing to be friendly to women. Miss Pankhurst, who was received with cheers, criticised the recent speeches made by Mr. Austen Chamberlain and Lord Carson in Birmingham. Mr. Chamberlain, she said, argued that a clear judgment was necessary from the electors before women could be given the vote. Was there a clear judgment from the women before men got the vote? No, there was not, and on the same principle it seemed to her that women ought to have it whether men liked it or not. Some attempt was made on the part of Mr. Lloyd George's admirers to heckle Miss Pankhurst, but a spirited response soon quelled the disorder, and the resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority. One man on leaving the hall remarked to Miss Dorothy Evans: "No such meeting has been held in the Town Hall for a very long time, hardly since Mr. Chamberlain's star was at its height."

MR. GEORGE AND THE W.S.P.U.

Correspondence between Miss Pankhurst and the Chancellor.

We gave last week the correspondence between Lord Lytton and Mr. Lloyd George in which the latter spoke of "the fact that the militants were prepared to depart from their principle of sex equality in favour of a measure which would have enfranchised only a million women, and would have been unfair to Liberalism, whereas they oppose an amendment which, if carried, will enfranchise six or seven millions of women and will be fair to all parties in the State," saying that this attitude proved to him that their action was dominated by an anti-Liberal basis.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst accordingly wrote to Mr. Lloyd George as follows:—

In your letter to Lord Lytton you display some misunderstanding of the demand which the Women's Social and Political Union is making in respect of women's enfranchisement.

Our demand, a twofold one, is (a) that as men are to have manhood suffrage, women shall have womanhood suffrage; (b) that the Government shall themselves take the responsibility of initiating and carrying a measure giving equal voting rights to men and women, such measure to take the place of the threatened Manhood Suffrage Bill.

You have referred to our support of the Conciliation Bill, which provided for the enfranchisement of women householders, as being inconsistent with our present demand for Womanhood Suffrage. The explanation of why we originally accepted the Conciliation Bill, and why under present circumstances we no longer accept it, is a simple one. We originally accepted the Conciliation Bill as a temporary settlement, for two reasons. Firstly, we were assured by those responsible for the conciliation movement that you and other Liberals would never consent to a measure which gave the property, University, and lodger franchises to women. As the event proved, our willingness to meet Liberal critics half-way was ill repaid; for the same attacks were made upon the enfranchisement of women householders as had been formerly made upon the proposal to extend to women all the other franchises.

Secondly, we accepted the Conciliation Bill because we believed that if it were carried, and women householders gained possession of the Parliamentary vote, it would be impossible for the Government subsequently to propose any reform of the electoral law in which women did not share equally with men. In other words, we supported the Conciliation Bill as a preliminary to a joint measure of electoral reform, and not as an accompaniment to such a measure.

We make our demand for a Government measure in substitution for the suggested amendment to the Manhood Suffrage Bill mainly because there is no guarantee that that amendment will be carried. I will indicate one of the sources of danger.

By associating it with the general question of Universal Suffrage the Government have made women's enfranchisement a party question. Therefore the voting on the suggested amendment would obviously follow party lines, except for the fact that the 45 Liberal Anti-Suffragists and the 22 Nationalist Anti-Suffragists would desert the Coalition forces on that occasion. Their 67 votes, counting 134 on a division, would wipe out the Coalition majority, and would cause the defeat of the amendment. If, on the other hand, the Government themselves initiate the proposals for Woman Suffrage, then the Anti-Suffragist Members of the Coalition will, for the sake of their own measures, be as keenly desirous of the passage of Woman Suffrage as will their Suffragist colleagues. The guarantee of success which a Government measure affords we shall continue to demand with all the power at our disposal.

Where the Insurance Bill is concerned, you, sir, have said that you will fight it through or you will fall—and, of course, the Government would fall with you. It is genuine and thorough-going service of this kind that we claim from yourself and the Government where the cause of women's enfranchisement is concerned.

Mr. George's Reply.

The following letter in reply was received from Mr. E. A. Gowers:—
I am desired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, and in reply to inform you that he has nothing to add to what he said in his letter to Lord Lytton.

THE W.S.P.U. AND CAXTON HALL.

At a meeting of the Westminster City Council on Thursday, November 23, Mr. G. de Griffith asked whether, having regard to the wanton damage done on Tuesday evening to the property of many ratepayers in the city by members of the Women's Social and Political Union, the General Purposes Committee, which was charged with the duty of letting Caxton Hall, would give orders that in future the hall should not be let to the Union unless an undertaking was given by the organisers that the meeting was an ordinary one and not one preparatory to a raid on the place of any person or assembly. Mr. Henry Tozer, chairman of committee, said that there were considerable difficulties with regard to securing any such stipulations. As far as the Caxton Hall was concerned they had watched the conduct of this Union very closely, and up to the present the members had behaved themselves very well while there. The committee would consider the matter, but unless Mr. de Griffith could give them some form of words which could be binding, he was afraid they could do nothing at all.

LABOUR OPPOSITION TO MANHOOD SUFFRAGE

At a meeting of the Kensal Rise and N. Kilburn Branch of the I.L.P. the following resolution was passed and sent to the Prime Minister:—"This Branch calls upon the Government to withdraw their Manhood Suffrage Bill, and to introduce a Bill giving equal franchise to men and women."

A resolution demanding womanhood suffrage has been passed by the Committee of the York Fabian Society, and a copy has been forwarded to the Prime Minister.

At a meeting of the Aberdeen Trades Council held on November 29 the following resolution was adopted:—

That this meeting views with indignation the announcement by the Prime Minister that a Reform Bill extending the franchise for men only will be introduced next year, and decides to oppose by all means in its power any extension of the franchise which does not provide for political equality between the sexes.

The chairman, in submitting the resolution, said they did not know what sort of a bill it was going to be, or exactly on what terms the franchise was to be extended, but they knew that the Government had no intention of extending the franchise beyond the male sex. The position the council

toll have ripened public opinion on a question. When the difficult task has been accomplished the Chancellor comes forward and says, "You may step back now; the hissing and hooting have been yours; the applause and glory shall be mine." Mr. Lloyd George is a political cuckoo, and his political eggs are all laid in nests prepared by birds of less migratory and self-advertising habits. To read the Chancellor's speech, one might imagine that the case for the enfranchisement of women was being stated for the first time. His statement falls short in two important respects. It is less important to listen to a few elementary and threadbare arguments for women's suffrage than to know what the Government is going to do. There is little chance of any wide democratic franchise being passed into law except it is made from the start part and parcel of the Government scheme. But what is the Chancellor's view of a democratic franchise? Is it a complete and equal suffrage of men and women? When next he takes the platform, he ought to explain where he really stands. He is so apt to lose himself and his audience in a whirlwind of rhetoric.

THE IRISH TIMES.

Women are in some matters less easily humbugged than men: We do not think that the women of the United Kingdom will be much impressed by Mr. Lloyd George's glowing picture of their prospects under the

UNIONISTS ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The Unionist Anti-Suffragists have sent to their fellow Unionist M.P.'s a manifesto signed by Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Mr. Walter Long, Mr. F. E. Smith, and others, urging them to note the change that has taken place in the Woman Suffrage question since the Prime Minister's announcement, which, in their view, makes only two alternatives possible—either Adult Suffrage or complete exclusion of women from the franchise.

The following letter in support of the Conciliation Bill has been sent in reply:—

Sir,—Our attention has been called to a letter signed by six highly respected members of the Unionist party, urging those Unionists who have hitherto been in favour of the Conciliation Bill to abandon their support of that measure. The principal ground upon which this course is urged is that the Government have announced their intention of bringing in a wide measure of electoral reform, and that Mr. Lloyd George has advocated the inclusion in that measure of a very extensive enfranchisement of women.

Some of us have long thought that the continued resistance of moderate men to the reasonable demands of women in this respect would lead to some such result. To us it seems that recent developments only make it more imperative to press forward the Conciliation Bill. If that were abandoned there is grave danger that the whole force of the women who desire votes would be devoted to the support of a suffrage amendment to the Franchise Bill acceptable to Mr. Lloyd George. In any case one of two consequences must almost certainly follow such abandonment. Either the Franchise Bill will become law, with an extension of the suffrage to women so wide as to more than double the existing electorate—a result which no moderate reformer can approve—or else it will fail, and no woman will get the vote, exposing Parliament to the not unjust reproach of having again "tricked" the women.

We, therefore, trust that all moderate supporters of Women's Suffrage will continue their advocacy of a Bill framed, not in the interest of one party or of the other, but designed to give the vote to those women of every political opinion who have a direct and personal interest in national affairs.

Alfred Lyttelton, Hugh Cecil,
W. Mitchell-Thomson, Robert Cecil,
George Wyndham, W. Ormsby Gore,
Gos. Cave.

The following protest has also been signed by The Hon. A. Lyttelton, Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. Mitchell Thomson and Mr. Ormsby-Gore:

We, being members of the Unionist party who have supported the policy of the Conciliation Bill, desire to express our profound regret at the recrudescence of violent methods of agitation adopted by the members of the W.S.P.U., which we regard as wholly indefensible.

It would be unjust to record this opinion without at the same time expressing our strong censure of the very provocative treatment of this important subject by the Government, culminating in the proposal put forward for party purposes to extend still further the franchise to men without giving a vote even to the most highly qualified woman.

SIR EDWARD GREY'S VIEWS.

Sir Edward Grey has addressed the following letter to Lord Lytton:—

Mr. Dear Lytton,—I desire to supplement my letter of the 20th of this month to you in view of subsequent developments. The present situation is that an indifferent prospect of obtaining the enfranchisement of 1,000,000 women under the Conciliation Bill may be exchanged for a good prospect of the enfranchisement of some 6,000,000 women by an amendment to a Government Bill, moved, if necessary, by a Cabinet Minister. As far as I can judge, a larger measure of union is already forthcoming for an amendment of this character than had yet been apparent in the case of the Conciliation Bill.

Those of us who are united with regard to such an amendment have intended, as far as may be in our power, to advocate the cause of Woman's Suffrage on these lines actively and publicly before the introduction of the Bill next year. Some of us have already made engagements for that purpose. But acts of violence such as accompanied the demonstration on the 21st of this month, culminating last night in the disorderly scenes at a meeting for a charitable purpose addressed by the Prime Minister, have done immense mischief to the cause. As a matter of fact, we cannot advocate it successfully when conduct of this sort alienates numbers of people who would otherwise be disposed to give it a fair and favourable hearing; nor can it be expected that people like myself, who are colleagues and friends of the Prime Minister, can give active support to any movement while some of its supporters make him the object of a demonstration such as occurred last night.

In saying this I know that I express the feeling of others who are my colleagues as well as of myself. I feel bound to say that for any of us to give active support to the cause of Woman's Suffrage while this violent conduct is continued would be repugnant to our own good feeling, and even if it were not so, it would, in the circumstances, be sheer waste of time.—Yours sincerely,

E. GREY.

Sir Edward Grey referred to Woman Suffrage at the close of his meeting in Plymouth, saying it would be exasperating if a wider measure of suffrage were given to men while women remained without.



CHARACTERS AT THE FAIR.

[Photo: "Topical."]

had always taken up in common with practically every democratic association in the country was that no extension of the franchise ought to be on the basis of citizenship, and sex ought to be no barrier. He felt that any extension which meant merely giving more votes to men, particularly on the basis of their manhood, while leaving women out of account, would make things even worse than they were at the present time.

The Poplar branch of the Independent Labour Party on November 22 passed the following resolution unanimously:—"This branch calls upon the Government to introduce next session a Bill giving men and women equal voting rights."

The Harrow branch of the I.L.P. have also passed the same resolution unanimously. At a largely attended meeting held at the Independent Labour Party Institute, Harlesden, on November 23, the following resolution, proposed by Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and seconded by Mr. Herbert H. Grimwood, was carried unanimously:—"That this meeting views with indignation the declaration of the Prime Minister that a Manhood Suffrage Bill will be introduced next year. The meeting calls upon the Liberal and Labour Members of Parliament at once to inform the Government that under no circumstances will they vote for a Manhood Suffrage Bill, and to demand the immediate abandonment of this Bill and the substitution of a Government measure giving votes to all women and all men on equal terms."

The Leeds Trades Council passed a resolution to the effect that all adult men and women should be included in the next Electoral Reform Bill, and urged that the Labour Party should lose no opportunity of pressing this upon the Government.

The following resolution was passed unanimously by the Tenacres and Strichly Women's Co-operative Guild on Monday, November 27:—"That this Guild expresses its indignation at the action of the Government in bringing forward a Manhood Suffrage Bill, and calls upon the Liberal and Labour Members of Parliament to vote against the Bill and demand its withdrawal and the introduction by the Government of a real Adult Suffrage Bill including men and women on equal terms."

LABOUR LEADER.

The speech on suffrage delivered by Mr. Lloyd George at Bath is characteristic of our noble Chancellor. Mr. Lloyd George disembarks his views with others by means of thankful effort and

Government's Suffrage Bill. They are the fluent promises of a demagogue who is being found out.

SUFFRAGETTES AND HOME RULE.

Mr. J. Redmond and Mr. Birrell have each consented (says the London correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*) to receive a deputation from the London branch of the Irish Women's Franchise League in reference to the franchise clauses of the Home Rule Bill. Mr. Birrell asks that in his case the interviews shall not take place until after Christmas, when, he states, he will be in a better position to discuss the Bill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The speakers at the London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus, on Monday next, December 11 at 3.15 p.m. will be Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B. Miss Eva Moore has kindly consented to recite "The Happy Prince." The meeting on Thursday evening, December 14, at 8 p.m. will be held in Kensington Town Hall, and will be addressed by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B.

Dinner to the Duval family.

The Men's Political Union have arranged a welcome dinner in honour of Mrs. Duval, the Misses Duval and Mr. Victor Duval, on December 20. It will be remembered that all five were arrested on November 21. Tickets, price 5s., and all further particulars may be had at the M.P.U. Office, 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.

The Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Our readers will be glad to know that Miss Pankhurst's article entitled "Broken Windows," which appeared in last week's issue of VOTES FOR WOMEN, will shortly be published as a leaflet, price 6s. per thousand, 9d. per hundred, post free.

Miss Vida Goldstein.

Miss Goldstein's many friends will be glad to know that owing to private affairs she is remaining in England for another fortnight.



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ENTERTAINMENTS AT THE FAIR.

The Actresses' Franchise League has broken its record! On many previous occasions its members have proved their devotion to the Woman's Movement; they have given their time and their gifts unstintingly, and often at much sacrifice. Now once again they are organising the entertainment side of a suffrage festival, and anyone visiting the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, up to Saturday evening, December 9, may be sure of a comfortable seat, good music and delightful plays.

Every afternoon, at 3.45, there is a concert. On Monday the performers included Miss Edith Parsons, Miss Edith Clegg, Miss Eva Moore (accompanied by Madame Liza Lehmann), Miss Rosa Leo, Mr. Alfred H. West, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin (by kind permission of Mr. George Edwardes), and Mr. Barclay Gannon. Then, at half-past four, Miss Sydney Keith produced Mr. J. M. Barrie's inimitable play, "The Twelve Pound Look," by kind permission of the author, to whom all suffragists will be specially grateful. The cast was a particularly distinguished one, consisting of Mr. Fawless Llewellyn (by kind permission of Miss Lillah McCarthy), Miss Muriel Hutchinson (by kind permission of Mr. Oscar Asche), Miss Dora Barton and Mr. Herbert Cox. This play was again given on Wednesday evening, and it will also be given on Saturday afternoon.

A dramatic and musical entertainment by Miss Nellie Sargent followed, and in the evening another excellent musical programme (in which Miss Scruby, Miss Grace Kemp Gee, Miss Marjorie Clemens, Miss Griffith Saunderson, Miss Myrtle Meggy, Mr. Laurence Kellie, Mr. Ernest Denny and Miss E. K. Russell took part), preceded Miss Vera Wentworth's "Allegory." This little play, so full of meaning to suffragists, scored a great success. It was beautifully acted by Miss Maud Hoffman, Miss Beatrice Filmer, Miss Violet Bazalgette, Mr. Frederic Morena (by kind permission of Mr. Arthur Hardy), Mr. William Stack and Mr. Lancelot Lowther. The incidental music was played by the composer, Miss Eva Lonsdale, and the play was produced by Mr. Frederic Morena. At the close the audience called loudly for the young author.

The programme for the second day of the Fair was equally varied and delightful. "The Maid and the Magistrate" (Miss Elaine Inescort and Mr. John Wardle), caused great amusement, and the little bit of real life represented in Miss Inez Bensusan's play "The Apple," was most thoroughly enjoyed. In the unavoidable absence of Miss Muriel Pope the author herself played "Helen," and the other parts were taken by Miss Lorna Lawrence, Mr. David Darrell and Mr. William Stack. Miss Bensusan herself produced the play, and had, as she deserved (for she is giving all her time and strength to these entertainments), an enthusiastic reception.

For the evening's entertainment there were songs at the piano by Mr. Gerald Lindley, violin solos by Miss Mary Law, songs by Miss Margaret Stone, Mme. Moliton Meux, Miss Grainger Kerr, and Miss Ada Moore; Dr. Ethel Smyth's octet "1910," by Mme. Josephine Mann, Miss Jessie Jennings, Mrs. McGlasson, Miss Edith Budd, Messrs. French, Barnett, Clarke, and Martin, with Miss Agnes Jennings at the piano; cello solos by Miss May Muckle; and a humorous entertainment by Mr. Percy French. The simultaneous reciting or singing and sketching of this gentleman caused hearty laughter, and he was deservedly encored, as were the other artists.

"Miss Appleyard's Awakening," the clever sketch by Miss Evelyn Glover, was played by Miss Victoria Addison, Miss Agnes Inlay, and Miss Joan Dilla. Mr. Charles Lacroix was the producer. The fifteen "Good Reasons" of Lord Curzon, quoted by Miss Crabtree, were greeted with chuckles, and the indignant words of Miss Appleyard, "It seems to me that you want every woman to be a perfect fool!" were applauded all over the house.

So ended the second day's entertainment. There is something good on the programme for every day, and Mrs. Pertwee and her helpers may be sure of an appreciative audience every time.

Special thanks are due to Mr. Walter Cross, who most kindly came forward and filled a gap caused by the absence of two artists who were unable to attend.

Visitors to the Fair should make a special point of seeing the exquisite doll "The Rose of Persia," which Miss Rosa Leo has dressed and presented to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. Down to the tiniest detail the dress is perfect, and in view of the appeal for help just sent by the women of Persia to their sisters in England, to which allusion is made on page 154, the "Rose of Persia" is of special interest. Remember also to look for photographs of Mrs. Bury's barouche (for sale) at the Special W.S.P.U. Stall; the Doll's House and the Microscope, with Slides, at the Mary Inventions Stall; the Group of Coronation Dolls (which might well form a Christmas Gift to some institution for children). And don't forget the little white dogs!

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Woman Without Sin." By Phyllis Smith. London: Swift and Co. 6s.

"Daily News Year Book, 1912." 6d. net.

"The Englishwoman." December. London: Sidgwick and Jackson. 1s. net.

"Women Join Hands" (song). By Laurence Housman. Music by Selwyn Lloyd. London: Boak and Co. 6d. net.

"Christian Religion." By Mrs. Arthur Hind. Cambridge: H. K. Lewis. 1s. net.



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112, REGENT STREET, W.

VOTES FOR WOMEN

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1911.

WHY WE SILENCED MR. ASQUITH.

"Outrage on the Prime Minister!" "Infamous Scene!" This strong language might well cause the uninitiated to wonder what extraordinary act the Suffragettes had at length committed. It proved to be simply this—they had challenged a politician who, while accepting the office of Prime Minister, refuses to fulfil the duties of that office by giving votes to the women of the country. If women, cheated of their citizen rights, are not entitled to do this much in protest, then this is no longer a free country, for it is a country where half the people are denied, not only their rights, but also the liberty to fight for them. We shall soon hear men condemning the action of the barons at Runnymede, and deprecating both the tax resistance and the military exploits of John Hampden.

The sanctimonious expostulations which the City Temple protest has called forth in the Liberal Press are truly nauseating. They are, of course, the outcome of party spirit. After all, Ministers of the Crown have been denied a hearing even in the House of Commons itself. When, in 1905, Liberal M.P.s howled down the Colonial Secretary, what did the Liberal newspapers say then? They said that "this outburst of resentment" was provoked by the conduct of the then Prime Minister. We have taken and altered, by the use of the word "woman," and by the substitution of "Asquith" for "Balfour," the defence of this action by M.P.s which appeared in the *Daily News* political notes at that time, with the result that it makes a perfect defence of the City Temple protest:—

What is to be said of such an event? One thing only—that it was unavoidable. If ever there was a case of a statesman playing with great passions and great causes until they inevitably flowed out at him and burned him, it is Mr. Asquith. The "scene" is the outcome of Mr. Asquith's habitual refusal of decency and fair play to women, whom he is never tired of tricking and betraying. Human nature is human nature, and the incident simply shows that the limit of endurance has now been reached. The demonstration was, from this point of view, a proper and much-needed assertion of the rights of women. It was high time for women to speak their feelings in a way that there could be no mistaking.

An astonishing feature of the City Temple protest was Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's lecture to women. If he had nothing better to say than this, then silence would have become him better. After all, he, as Chairman of the Labour Party, is largely responsible for the women's protest. If he had been more zealous in this cause, women might have had the vote by now. Had Mr. MacDonald, upon the announcement of a Manhood Suffrage Bill, declared war upon the measure, he could have killed it and compelled the Government to promise a measure giving equal voting rights to men and women and our protest would have been unnecessary. Does the chairman of the Labour Party owe no duty to the women workers of the country? Is that duty fulfilled by conniving at the unjust policy of the Government and allowing the enfranchisement of working women to incur the perils which beset an amendment as distinguished from a Government measure? We think not! Mr. MacDonald informs us that he has high

ideals of womanly conduct. We reply that we have high ideals of manly conduct, and we hope that those who profess to be the champions of working women will not fall short of our ideals.

There is a fact to which we would draw Mr. MacDonald's very special attention. It is this. The Parliamentary forces which he leads are part of the majority by which the Government hold office. This places upon his shoulders a very direct and a very heavy responsibility for the Government's action.

Complaint has been made that a philanthropic meeting, in a place of worship, was chosen as the occasion of our protest. Our critics evidently forget that ordinary political meetings addressed by Cabinet Ministers are barred to women—men only being allowed to be present. It was not until admission to political meetings was refused to us that other gatherings were visited for the purpose of such protests.

We hear, also, some canting talk about the right of free speech being violated by the City Temple protest. There is much confusion of thought as to what the right of free speech really is. It is the right of the people to hold public meetings without interference by the authorities. It is emphatically not the right of any person, and above all it is not the right of Ministers of the Crown, to express unchallenged opinions and intentions which the people condemn. Neither law nor custom gives to any speaker such protection as this. The speaker must win his way with an audience by persistence, courage, and force of argument.

The reason why Ministers cut so poor a figure on the platform is that they have a bad political conscience where Woman Suffrage is concerned, and "conscience doth make cowards of us all." Mr. Asquith and his colleagues, whether Suffragists or not, know that they cannot defend on grounds of principle the Government policy of introducing a Manhood Suffrage Bill, while women are left to depend for enfranchisement upon a mere amendment to this Bill.

The amendment scheme is a snare and a delusion, and this fact becomes daily more apparent. In last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN we stated that the voting on a Womanhood Suffrage amendment, or on what is known as the Lloyd George amendment, would proceed on party lines, save for the fact that there would be 67 deserters from the ranks of the Coalition, this having the effect of wiping out the Coalition majority of 118 and defeating the amendment. We have been accused of taking an unduly pessimistic view of the situation. But a letter just issued by leading Unionist Suffragists, in which they definitely express opposition to the Lloyd George amendment, confirms the accuracy of our forecast, and proves that unless a democratic proposal for Woman Suffrage is made a Government measure it will not be carried.

Some trustful persons talk with a certain degree of hopefulness of carrying an amendment on the lines of the Conciliation Bill, which they say will have the result of removing the political disability of sex. We cannot share that view. The Conciliation Bill, though it would have been highly valuable as a preliminary to electoral reform, would be a most unfortunate accompaniment of such reform. It would place women electors in a very small minority. It would leave standing a very real disability of sex, because women would vote on a much more unfavourable basis than men.

That Mr. Lloyd George is plotting harm to the women's cause becomes more and more clear every day. This is his plan:—If he discovers that it is absolutely impossible to prevent the enfranchisement of women on any terms, he will be resigned to seeing a small number of women enfranchised, because at the same time a great and final measure of men's enfranchisement is to be carried. The earlier passage of the Conciliation Bill would have paved the way to equal voting rights to men and women, and that is the true reason why Mr. Lloyd George opposed it. He is now more favourably disposed to the Conciliation Bill because (having regard to the difficulty of stirring men to amend the franchise, once it has become perfect for themselves) it is likely to place women electors in a small minority for many years to come.

The trusting ones argue that he regards the Conciliation Bill as so inimical to the interests of the Liberal Party that he must in truth prefer a wider measure of votes for women. We think it very plain that he would prefer no votes for women at all! We also think it plain that "if the worst comes to the worst," Mr. Lloyd George and official Liberals generally will now actually prefer a smaller measure of Woman Suffrage to a larger one, because a smaller measure reduces to a minimum the electoral power of women as such, and because they trust to the proposed increase in the men's vote to neutralise the unfavourable effect on the party fortunes which they anticipated if the present men's franchise had been maintained!

We shall never believe that Mr. Lloyd George is a genuine supporter of a democratic franchise for women until he secures that it be made a Government measure. Until this is done, we shall continue to tell him and all his colleagues in the Cabinet that we condemn their policy, and that we condemn their tactics. When either the Prime Minister or Mr. Lloyd George tells us that the Government will introduce and carry a measure of Equal Suffrage for men and women, then they shall have, not only an attentive hearing, but our enthusiastic plaudits as well.

Christabel Pankhurst.

A MESSAGE FROM MRS. PANKHURST.

The announcement that the Liberal Government intended to give more votes to men without at the same time enfranchising any women was received by thoughtful Americans with incredulity. They said: "There is some mistake. It cannot be possible in face of the progress of the woman's movement all over the world, and after the vigorous and devoted struggle that has been carried on by Englishwomen, that a responsible Government could have the effrontery to do such an injustice."

When confirmation came those who have followed the progress of our women's agitation awaited with breathless interest for the inevitable effect of such a challenge to the great army of heroic women whose untiring efforts have aroused their sympathy and admiration. The protest demonstration of Nov. 21 has been fully understood and deeply sympathized with. Many a woman has said: "If I were in England I would be with them," and men have exclaimed: "What are the men of England thinking about to allow such things to be done?"

On the Sunday before the demonstration I spoke in a church and told the congregation of our crusade for power to uplift our sex, and four ministers of religion—Methodist, Baptist, Congregational, and the Jewish Rabbi—each in his own way expressed sympathy with the Englishwomen's struggle for freedom. The collection was given me to send home. I could tell, were there space, of many like incidents.

The grateful love of women and the deep respect of all men who love justice go out to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and her heroic comrades for the prompt answer they have given to the insult offered to womanhood by the Liberal Government. That the Government should after all our years of effort introduce a Franchise Bill for men who have not asked for it is the crowning insult, and consideration of the Prime Minister's speech deepens our feeling of resentment and indignation. After announcing the Government's intention to introduce a Manhood Suffrage Bill, Mr. Asquith told his hearers "that a man should automatically, without any effort of his own and by the machinery of a public official and at the public expense, be invested with the full power of the franchise."

In the United States of America where democracy for men has reached what is thought to be its extreme limit, there is a condition imposed upon the voter which it appears to me is indispensable. The women recently enfranchised in California have just fulfilled that condition with eager willingness. The condition is that the enfranchised citizen shall himself attend at a registration office in person and register himself as a voter. Only those persons who take this small amount of trouble are allowed to vote. This test of fitness for full citizenship is not, if I understand Mr. Asquith aright, to be imposed upon British men. They are to be relieved of all trouble by officials paid out of taxes contributed in part by women, who themselves are voteless.

When the Women's Household Suffrage Bill was under discussion in the House of Commons Mr. Winston Churchill objected that it would give the vote to women who lived by immorality. What of the men who live upon the degradation of women, who under this Bill will be automatically put upon the register, men who if they had to claim the vote in person would not dare to do so; the men who to escape the performance of citizen duties leave their wives to undertake the responsibility of the household; the men who habitually live upon the scanty earnings of their mothers, wives, and young children?

Considerations such as these will give British women the courage and enthusiasm which will inspire them to engage in a civil war the outcome of which will be the withdrawal of this unjust Bill, and the substitution of a measure giving equal voting rights to men and women.

I long to be back in the glorious struggle. In a few days I go to Canada to rouse the women of that vast Dominion of ours to unite with the women of the

Mother Country in their fight for justice. Everywhere the women are waking, and the hour of complete victory is rapidly coming all over the world.

I send deep love and gratitude to the women of our splendid army.

A MESSAGE FROM MRS. HERTHA AYRTON.

Suggested by Mrs. Humphry Ward's letter to the "Times."

Mrs. Humphry Ward is either very short-sighted or very ungrateful. Mr. Lloyd George is no more concerned to give Votes to Women than is Lord Cromer, or Lord Curzon, or Mrs. Ward herself. He is out to kill the Conciliation Bill, and so he starts by saying that it has already been "torpedoed"—which is unkind to Mr. Asquith, who is supposed to be gallantly standing by his promise of facilities for that Bill. When Mr. Lloyd George is quite sure that there is no more life left in the Conciliation Bill, he will be only too pleased to find that, having choked off our Conservative allies, there are not enough Liberals on our side to carry his Woman Suffrage amendment to the Manhood Suffrage Bill. He will then appeal to the Women's Liberal Associations, and will say, "You see I have done all I could for you"; they will acquiesce and will continue to work for him and his party, and will be placidly content to wait for their own emancipation for another generation.

The Women's Social and Political Union are not quite so complaisant. They demand that Mr. Lloyd George shall prove his sincerity in the usual way, by insisting on the inclusion of Votes for Women in the Manhood Suffrage Bill from the beginning, and by threatening to resign his seat in the Cabinet if this is not done. But Mr. Lloyd George hates to be seen through, and so he has set out on a campaign of terminological inexactitudes against the Women's Social and Political Union, and is calling them all sorts of "bad names"—"Tories in disguise" and so forth. Let the Anti-Suffragists take heart of grace! If they know their own business they will welcome Mr. Lloyd George as their most powerful ally, and will instal him, along with Lord Cromer, Lord Curzon and Mr. Austen Chamberlain, among their saints.

FROM MISS LILLIAN MCCARTHY.

"L'audace et toujours l'audace!"—this is not only a duty but a necessity at this moment.

The offer of a Manhood Suffrage Bill scarcely seems to come from minds friendly to the cause of Women's Suffrage.

I do not take my stand on the question of sex; I ask the franchise right for all. With the property qualification as a base, I would uphold the right of every man and woman, properly qualified, to vote in parliamentary elections. Adult Suffrage is what we need. The door must stand open for men and women alike.

How are we to get it?

By hard work, by courage, by intelligence.

Every woman must play her part, that is essential.

For some a fighting rôle, for others the part of counsellor. The quietest stay-at-home ought to be able to say, like Astrea in "The Sentimentalists," "all the while I am a manufactory of gunpowder"—gunpowder formed of arguments, convictions, beliefs, powerful to shatter to fragments the objections and sophistries of our opponents.

A HOLY WAR.

Fast in a beleaguered city, mothers of the race
Cry aloud their hurt and hunger in the market-place;
Courage, sisters, look and listen, see the gathering throng,
We are marching to the rescue, twenty thousand strong!

Band of little wounded mothers, struggling in life's flood,
Victims of a world's injustice, love misunderstood,
Lift your tear-stained wondering faces to the lightning sky;
Do ye hear it? "God and Justice!" is our battle-cry!

There are mighty foes against us, Fear, and Pride, and Greed,
Hydra-headed social customs that in darkness breed;
Ambushed beasts of lust and licence lurk beside the way;
We but grasp our sword the tighter, eager for the fray!

Do ye fear that in the conflict we shall fall and fail?
Do ye dream that where God leads us evil will prevail?
Let the blaring trumpets thunder from the hosts of wrong,
There is that behind our striving that will keep us strong.

While one woman cries in weakness to our sinner place,
While one man-made law can threaten health, and home, and race,
We will fight with every weapon, shout in every tone,
Till the woman as God planned her shall have found her own!

ALMON HERRICK.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £250,000 FUND.

November 21 to November 23.

| | |
|---|--|
| Already acknow- ledged.....£107,694 10 9 | Miss B. Whitley.....0 5 1 |
| Anon (a fine).....1 0 0 | Miss Amy Hicks.....2 2 0 |
| Miss Vera Holme.....1 0 0 | Mrs. Saul Solomon.....5 5 0 |
| Dr. H. B. Hanson.....1 0 0 | Miss Daisy Solomon.....1 1 0 |
| Mrs. F. M. Collier.....2 2 0 | Mrs. Maud Brindley.....10 0 0 |
| "Hair Combing".....1 0 0 | Mrs. Brailford.....10 0 0 |
| Miss Annie G. Forster.....5 0 0 | A Member.....1 0 0 |
| "A Cowardly Sym- ptiser".....1 1 0 | A Hampstead Man.....1 0 0 |
| Mrs. Capron.....1 0 0 | Mrs. Weaver.....10 0 0 |
| Misses A. and D. Allen- Brown.....3 0 0 | Miss Graily Hewitt.....1 0 0 |
| "A. M. V.".....2 0 0 | Mrs. Le L. Edwards.....1 0 0 |
| Miss K. E. (per Mrs. Baker).....0 5 0 | Miss M. B. Vibert.....0 9 9 |
| The Misses Dickinson.....0 3 0 | Local Fund.....10 10 0 |
| Miss Margery Frost.....0 2 0 | Members (collected).....1 7 9 |
| "H. S. Bowker".....0 10 6 | Hendon & Golders Green W.S.P.U.....5 0 0 |
| Miss Edith Beck.....20 0 0 | Mrs. Bousfield.....1 5 0 |
| Miss B. Shanks.....3 3 0 | Mrs. Pearce.....0 10 0 |
| Miss A. E. Dines.....1 0 0 | Mrs. J. J. Singer.....0 10 0 |
| "A. G. H.".....0 10 0 | Mrs. Wyatt.....0 10 0 |
| Miss I. C. Gorrle.....2 0 0 | Mrs. Morris.....0 10 0 |
| Miss A. M. Hooton.....0 2 8 | Misses R. & V. Aitken.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. Hope Jones.....1 1 0 | Miss Eleanor Wyatt.....0 5 0 |
| Mrs. M. M. Hulme.....0 10 0 | H. M. M.....0 5 0 |
| Miss Susan Carpenter.....1 0 0 | Mrs. R. Sals.....0 2 6 |
| Miss A. S. Barnes.....0 10 0 | Mrs. Noble.....0 2 6 |
| Miss B. T. Bullen.....0 4 0 | Mrs. Shearer.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Douglas-Hamilton.....100 0 0 | Mrs. Auerbach.....0 2 0 |
| Miss F. Howarth.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Barrow.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. House.....0 5 0 | Miss Neale.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. Dora Curtis.....1 0 0 | Mrs. Stanley Smith.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. Garrett Badley (sale of ring).....3 0 0 | Miss Shearer.....0 2 0 |
| Anon.....0 10 0 | Miss Elsie Wyatt.....0 2 0 |
| Miss H. M. Brailly.....1 0 0 | Miss Audrey Wyatt.....0 2 0 |
| Miss S. Constable.....0 5 0 | Miss Craig.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. Gals.....0 10 0 | Miss Parsons.....0 2 0 |
| "Baltimore Suffragists" (per Mrs. Pankhurst).....20 8 10 | Miss Hine.....0 1 0 |
| "Connecticut Suffra- gists" (do.).....5 1 10 | Miss Cresson.....3 0 0 |
| "A Canadian Friend".....0 1 0 | Islington W.S.P.U.....10 0 0 |
| Miss Anstey.....0 2 0 | Kensington W.S.P.U.....10 0 0 |
| Mrs. Marks.....1 10 0 | North Islington W.S.P.U.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. F. Lightman.....0 10 0 | Miss Hume.....0 5 0 |
| Mrs. Maud Lloyd.....2 0 0 | Miss Newstead.....0 5 0 |
| Miss A. M. Wilson.....0 2 0 | Miss Osborne.....0 2 0 |
| Miss A. Potter.....1 0 0 | Miss Henley.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. Walter Sykes.....100 0 0 | Miss Jordan.....0 1 0 |
| Mrs. Rinder.....1 2 0 | Miss Murphy.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. K. Pollen.....2 2 0 | Miss Bonwick.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. C. O. Miller.....5 0 0 | Miss Bryer.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. C. P. Yell.....1 1 0 | Miss D. E. Wood.....0 2 8 |
| Miss A. M. Wilson.....0 10 0 | Madame Houfer.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. Merryweather.....0 1 0 | The Misses Mann.....0 3 0 |
| Misses D. and F. Robbeck.....0 1 0 | Miss Bidwell.....0 1 0 |
| Miss M. A. Montgomery.....5 0 0 | Miss Shaw.....0 1 0 |
| Miss V. Walker.....0 2 6 | Miss K. Pepper.....0 1 0 |
| Mrs. Woods & Miss Waite.....0 10 0 | Miss Dorton.....0 5 0 |
| Miss T. E. Morley.....0 2 6 | Miss Jackson.....0 5 0 |
| Mrs. E. A. Woodall.....0 10 0 | Miss Herbert.....0 5 0 |
| Mrs. Fanny Lavarack.....1 0 0 | Miss Shoults.....0 6 0 |
| Mrs. J. A. Rufford.....0 13 6 | The Misses Jolly.....0 3 0 |
| Miss Annie Lawry.....0 5 0 | Extra on tickets.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. S. Quarry.....0 1 0 | From local fund.....3 0 0 |
| Mrs. Edith MacLachlan.....0 10 0 | Paddington W.S.P.U.....5 0 0 |
| Mrs. Emily Walton.....1 1 0 | Pinner W.S.P.U.....0 2 6 |
| Miss Irene Skipper.....0 5 0 | Mrs. Lane.....0 2 6 |
| Miss Neale, Mrs. Burrow and Miss Tabb.....0 5 0 | Mrs. Townshend.....0 2 6 |
| Miss B. Vine.....0 5 0 | Mrs. Spencer.....0 2 0 |
| Miss A. M. Roberts, M.D.....3 0 0 | Mrs. M. Thompson.....0 2 0 |
| Miss Phoebe Parsons.....0 10 0 | Mrs. West.....0 1 0 |
| Mrs. S. Rawlins.....0 10 0 | Mrs. Jenkins.....0 1 0 |
| Miss Payne (per Miss E. Blindfold).....0 2 6 | Mrs. Conder.....0 1 0 |
| Miss A. Stevens.....0 2 0 | Miss Crossfield, M.D.....0 1 0 |
| Miss R. Stevens.....0 5 0 | Miss MacLellan.....0 1 0 |
| Per Miss L. Ainsworth.....0 5 0 | Miss M. Verden.....0 1 0 |
| Miss Greig.....0 10 0 | Miss Lightbourne.....0 1 0 |
| Miss Bunting.....0 3 0 | Mrs. Rabbjohn.....0 6 8 |
| Miss E. E. Brown.....0 2 0 | Miss Wright.....0 6 8 |
| Mrs. Taylor.....50 0 0 | Mrs. Van Walsbrough.....1 0 0 |
| Jarrow Social (proceeds).....7 2 9 | Mrs. E. Hgal.....0 10 0 |
| Miss Rainbow.....0 10 0 | Mrs. Lovegrove.....0 10 0 |
| Per Miss R. Barrett.....0 10 0 | Mrs. Verdon.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. Whitehead (coll.).....0 11 6 | Miss Walford.....0 5 0 |
| Mrs. D. A. Thomas.....0 11 6 | Mr. and Mrs. Terrero.....0 5 0 |
| Per Lady Constance Lytton.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Muller.....0 5 0 |
| Miss Marie Hamilton.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Hertford.....0 5 0 |
| Per Miss F. Macaulay.....0 2 4 | Mrs. Black and Mrs. Smith.....0 5 0 |
| Extra on "V. I. W." (per Miss Key).....0 2 4 | Miss Flanagan.....0 2 6 |
| Per Miss C. Markwick.....4 19 3 | Mrs. Black.....0 2 6 |
| Leamington Meeting.....3 0 0 | Mrs. Freestone.....0 2 6 |
| Miss L. Floyd.....3 0 0 | Miss Gay.....0 2 6 |
| Miss Wilson.....0 5 0 | Mrs. Burns.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Shuffelbottom.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Kitchen.....0 2 6 |
| Miss Simmonds.....0 3 0 | Miss Draper, M.B.....0 2 6 |
| Albert Hall Purses. | Miss Meta Atherton.....0 1 0 |
| Greenwich, Deptford and Woolwich W.S.P.U.— | Mrs. Terrero.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Billinghurst.....1 0 0 | Miss White.....0 2 6 |
| Miss Clifford.....0 5 0 | M. M. Terrero, Esq.....0 2 6 |
| Miss Wilson.....0 5 0 | Richmond and Kew W.S.P.U.— |
| Miss E. Mathias.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Blundell (coll.).....0 8 9 |
| Miss Crooke.....0 3 0 | Dr. Russell Grant (coll.).....1 12 3 |
| Miss Fletcher.....0 2 0 | Pagoda Cafe (coll.).....0 7 6 |
| Miss Jameson.....0 1 0 | Anon.....0 5 0 |
| Mrs. Aldham.....0 1 0 | Mrs. Greville.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Leigh.....0 1 0 | Miss Agnes Potter.....0 1 0 |
| Misses E. and K. Leigh.....0 0 6 | Miss Ella Stevenson.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. Alexander.....0 2 0 | Miss Geraldine Stevenson.....0 10 0 |
| Miss Billinghurst.....0 1 0 | Mrs. David Thomas.....0 10 0 |
| Miss Jones.....0 1 0 | Blundell, Esq.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. Anderson.....0 1 0 | Mrs. Blundell.....0 10 0 |
| Hackney W.S.P.U.— | Miss Alleen Blundell.....0 3 0 |
| Mrs. Wills.....1 2 6 | Miss Rose Perkins.....0 1 0 |
| Miss Cole.....0 2 6 | Streatham W.S.P.U.— |
| Miss Hayman.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Bartels.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Holmes.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Kirkham.....0 2 6 |
| Miss Hudson.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Wilkinson.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Kelling.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Moore.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Jones.....0 5 0 | Mrs. Tyson.....0 2 6 |
| Collected.....0 2 0 | Mrs. Fleet.....0 2 6 |
| Hammermith W.S.P.U.— | Mrs. B. McLeod.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. and Miss Haas- blecher.....2 0 0 | Miss Revels.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. F. E. Rowe (sale of daffodils advertised in "V. I. W.").....1 15 0 | The Misses Russell.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. Armstrong.....0 10 0 | Miss Gurney.....0 10 0 |
| Miss Yeldham.....0 10 0 | Miss R. A. Ellison.....10 0 0 |
| Mrs. Maund.....0 10 0 | Miss B. Follett.....0 2 0 |
| Hampstead W.S.P.U.— | The Misses Thompson.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Hicks.....5 5 0 | Miss Leonora Tyson.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. A. C. Gordon.....3 3 0 | Miss Diana Tyson.....0 2 6 |
| Miss O. Collier.....4 4 0 | The Misses Wighman.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. Bull.....1 1 0 | The Misses Eldridge.....0 2 0 |
| Miss H. Weaver.....1 0 0 | Miss E. Green.....0 2 0 |
| Miss Beatrice Harraden.....1 0 0 | Miss Phillips.....0 2 0 |
| Miss Smith.....5 0 0 | Anon.....0 2 0 |
| Miss Mary Smith.....5 0 0 | Miss N. Smith.....0 2 0 |
| Miss Ada Smith.....5 0 0 | Mrs. Smith.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. Peartree.....0 1 0 | Miss K. Clutton.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. McGrath.....0 1 0 | Mrs. Prosser.....0 2 0 |
| Miss Helen Gratton.....0 2 6 | Wandsworth W.S.P.U.— |
| Mrs. W. Roberts.....0 2 6 | Mrs. Chapman.....0 2 0 |
| Miss Mary Thompson.....0 3 0 | Miss Pole.....0 2 0 |
| Miss H. M. Taylor.....0 5 0 | Mrs. Barrett.....0 2 6 |
| Miss Patridge.....0 10 0 | Mrs. Haddock.....0 2 6 |
| Mrs. Rose.....1 0 0 | Miss Saunders.....0 2 0 |
| Mrs. Levy.....0 5 0 | Miss Fogarty.....0 1 0 |
| Miss M. Levy.....0 5 0 | Anon.....0 10 0 |
| Mrs. Arnelife Senneth.....1 0 0 | Mrs. Rose.....0 1 0 |
| | Mrs. Hepburn.....0 17 0 |
| | Anon.....0 5 0 |
| | Mrs. Harden.....0 5 0 |
| | Wimbledon W.S.P.U.— |
| | United members.....2 10 |
| | Collection— |
| | London.....38 3 8 |
| | Per Miss L. Ainsworth.....0 12 7 |
| | Per Miss R. Barrett.....0 12 6 |
| | Per Miss D. Evans.....1 40 3 |
| | Per Miss M. D. Graham.....1 3 8 |
| | Per Miss F. Macaulay.....10 7 10 |
| | Per Miss C. Markwick.....0 12 3 |
| | Total.....£109,777 10 6 |

Cheques should be made out to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence

and crossed "Barclay and Co."

FURTHER HEARING AT BOW STREET.

The remaining cases at Bow Street were disposed of on Friday last, with the exception of that of Mr. Duval, which was adjourned to Tuesday, when it was completed, and he was sentenced to five days. In Mr. Duval's case the police evidence was directly contradicted by the evidence of civilian witnesses, and was in several particulars self-contradictory; nevertheless, as usual, the police evidence was accepted and Mr. Duval was given five days for obstruction.

Miss Nelly Neave was charged with throwing missiles through the window of the Treasury Office. Two missiles were thrown and three panes of glass broken. Defendant had upon her a hammer and water pistol (produced). The damage was 7s. 6d. Defendant said she broke those windows because she was so disgusted at the prospect of a Manhood Suffrage Bill being brought in before the women's question was settled. Fined 10s., 7s. 6d. damage, or seven days.

Miss Kathleen Jarvis was next charged with breaking the window of Messrs. Pearson and Sons, the damage being 20s. Defendant said she did it as a protest against the Manhood Suffrage Bill. There had been no campaign for Manhood Suffrage. It was not only a great danger to women, but also a great insult. Fined 10s., 20s. damage, or fourteen days.

Miss Patricia Woodlock and Miss Edith Prier came next, charged with breaking windows in the Treasury Office, the damage being 12s. 6d. Miss Woodlock said she threw the stones, not at haphazard, but as a protest against this Government, which is not granting justice to women. She was only doing as her forefathers had done when they fought for the Parliamentary vote. Miss Prier said she did it as a protest against the Government's Manhood Suffrage Bill. Miss Woodlock, having been convicted before, was fined 40s., 6s. 3d. damage, or twenty-one days. Miss Prier was fined 10s., 6s. 3d. damage, or seven days.

Miss Marie Naylor was then brought in, charged with breaking a pane of glass in the Home Office window, the damage being 10s. She said this was the very first act of wilful damage she had committed in the whole of her life. She did it most deliberately. She formed the resolution to throw a stone after witnessing the treatment of the women at the hands of the police on Black Friday. She protested against the proposal of the Government to enfranchise every irresponsible male and no responsible woman. Fined 10s. and 10s. damage, or ten days.

Miss Kathleen Armstrong was next charged with breaking a window of the Home Office, the damage being 10s. The defendant said her conscience was perfectly clear that she was doing perfectly right in protesting in the only way possible against the Manhood Suffrage Bill. Fined 5s. and 10s. damage, or seven days.

Miss Jackeydawn Melford was charged with obstruction by trying to force her way through the police line. In answer to the magistrate Miss Melford said, "I do not see how you can charge me with obstruction. The police were obstructing me in the execution of my duty. I wished to make a protest in the only possible way left." Fined 5s., or five days.

Mrs. Charlotte Ireland was next charged with trying to force her way through the police line. The defendant said she was not trying to force her way into the House of Commons, but was endeavouring to prevent the arrest of a Suffragist whom she knew. She was fined 5s., or five days. Mrs. Ireland said she took the action she did as a protest against the action of the Government which had attempted to prevent, and to continue to prevent, women having those rights of citizenship and freedom which were secured to them under the Magna Charta. Rights which were exercised up to 1832, but since that time illegally and unconstitutionally held from them. It was also a protest against women being compelled to pay taxes in order to carry out laws in the making of which they had no voice. She followed in the steps of John Hampden, who preferred imprisonment to injustice and tyranny. Fined 5s., or five days.

Miss Nora Kathleen Lackey, charged with breaking a window of the Board of Trade Office, said she was not considered a citizen she wished to show her strength as one. It would not be the last time. It was a protest against the number of swollen heads there were in Parliament at the present time. Fined 10s., 5s. damage, or seven days.

Miss Vera Meyer, charged with trying to force her way through the police line, said: "It is quite true I did it, and I must go on doing it as long as it is necessary." Fined 5s., or five days.

Miss Margaret Thompson was next charged with breaking a window in Whitehall. The defendant said she broke the window as a protest against the Manhood Suffrage Bill and Mr. Lloyd George's hypocrisy in the amendment. They had broken their promises, and therefore, under these circumstances, women could only have recourse to such actions.

methods as window breaking and make politicians both fear and think. Fined 10s., 10s. damage, or ten days.

Miss Jessie Smith was charged with breaking a pane of glass at the Treasury valued at 2s. 6d. The defendant said she was a tax-paying woman, and had tried by peaceful propaganda to work for the emancipation of her sex, but after Mr. Asquith's last proposal she threw the stone where she thought she ought to have some entrance into the Treasury window. Fined 5s. and 2s. 6d. damage, or five days.

Miss Norah Black was next charged with breaking a window at the Privy Council Office, the damage being 2s. 6d. Defendant said she protested in this form because it was the only form that the intelligence of the Government seemed to understand. Fined 10s. and 2s. 6d. damage, or seven days.

Miss Winifred Mayo was next heard, and was charged with breaking two windows in the Guards' Club. The damage was 24. Fined 30s. and 24 damage, or twenty-one days.

Miss Laura Grey was charged with breaking a window of the National Liberal Club. The constable said that on her way to the police station she twice endeavoured to throw stones. At Cannon Row she threw a stone through the station window, the damage being 1s. She also had a hammer (produced). The damage at the National Liberal Club was 21. The defendant said she took this action as a means of protest against the introduction by the Government of a Manhood Suffrage Bill. She regretted that she had done so little damage before she was arrested. She should continue to protest in this way until a Franchise Bill giving equal rights to men and women was on the Statute Book, and if she ceased protesting in this way it could only be for one reason—that the Bill had passed into law. Fined 20s. and 2s. damage, or fourteen days.

Mrs. Catherine Richard was then charged with breaking two windows at the Offices of Woods and Forests valued at 20s. The defendant said she could not understand why the term malicious was used. She had never had a malicious feeling. She was a Christian woman, and had been a minister's wife for twenty-eight years, during which time she had tried to help the poor, but the work was only superficial work. The protest that she had now made was made because it was the only thing she could do as a political protest. If she knew of any better way she would do it. The sufferings of the poor had driven her to it. She had the blood of martyrs in her veins; her ancestors had been burned at the stake and had been exiled. Fined 10s. and 20s. damage, or ten days.

Mrs. Nancy Norton was next fined 5s., or five days, for obstructing the police.

Miss Lill Forsyth was also fined 5s., or five days, for obstructing the police. She said she did it as a protest against the Government.

The Danger Bell of England.

Miss Marie Charlotte Moore was charged with throwing a stone at the Local Government Board Office. Prosecuting constable said she denied this at the station. The damage was 5s. In reply to the magistrate as to whether she wished to ask the constable any questions, she said, "It is no use asking questions." In reply to the magistrate she said, "I did not break the window; unfortunately, I wish I had. I am such an amateur. I will do a little better next time. I have my witness, but she shall be kept in the dark." Fined 10s. and 5s. damage, or seven days. Defendant continued "I have been called out of my home to help ring the bell—the danger bell of England."

Miss E. C. Layton and Miss Marion Dunlop were next charged with breaking two panes of glass at the Home Office. Miss Dunlop asked the magistrate whether they were allowed to consider motive there or whether they had only to administer the law. She said they all felt they were doing the right thing. They were all moved by that feeling. Great wrong was done to the women of the country; only injustice was meted out to them, and they were grossly insulted by the proposal of a Manhood Suffrage Bill. She had worked for many years, and was now reduced to throwing stones. The damage was 20s. Miss Dunlop contended that the act was not malicious. The magistrate said it was a malicious act in the eye of the law to break other people's windows. Miss Dunlop said window breaking was a time-honoured political weapon. Addressing the magistrate again she said: "I am sorry for you, because you are administering the law, but you are not administering justice." Miss Dunlop had been there before, but Miss Layton had not. Miss Layton: "Not before, but I shall probably be here again." Miss Layton was fined 10s. and 10s. damage, or seven days. Miss Dunlop was fined 40s. and 10s. damage, or twenty-one days.

Miss Georgina Helen Grant, charged with breaking a window at the Canadian Northern Railway Company in Whitehall, was next brought in. The case was adjourned until Friday morning, December 1, owing to the damage being £12.

Miss Mary Taylor was next charged with obstructing the police. The defendant said she came up to the deputation this year and last year, and she should continue to do so in this or similar ways until the Government gave them justice. She was fined 10s., or seven days.

Miss Selma Fry was next charged with trying to break through the police line at Cannon Row and trying to climb the railings.

Defendant denied that she was trying to climb the railings. She said she was assisting other women to climb. She said she made her protest in all sincerity against the Government's action in treating women as they had done by bringing in a Manhood Suffrage Bill and by Mr. Lloyd George's torpedoing the Conciliation Bill. She should continue to agitate with the other women who were suffering for the cause. Fined 5s., or five days.

Friday Morning.

Miss Georgina Helen Grant was the first case to be heard on Friday morning, being adjourned from Wednesday, November 29. Defendant was accused of breaking a window at the Canadian Northern Railway Company's office at 21, Charing Cross, the damage being £12. The accused was committed to take her trial at the London Sessions on December 5 for unlawfully and maliciously breaking the window, the bail being two securities in £25 or one in £50.

Miss Dorothea Rock and Miss Grace Chappelow were then brought in, charged with throwing stones at the window of the Board of Trade Office. Three panes were broken, the value being 7s. 6d. Miss Rock said: "We did it from a sense of duty, and we can only be stopped by granting us the vote, not by punishment." Miss Rock was fined 5s. and 3s. 9d. damage, or five days. Miss Chappelow, who had been there before, was fined 10s. and 3s. 9d. damage, or seven days.

Lieutenant Sutor.

Mr. Alan Sutor (better known as Lieutenant Sutor) was next charged with breaking a window of the War Office, valued at 5s. When arrested he said he did it intentionally. Another stone was found in his mackintosh pocket. Accused said: "I do not wish to justify in any way the breaking of the window. I object to the expense. I do not think it is worth 5s.; I do not think the whole War Office is worth 5s. My action may seem absolutely futile, absolutely mean and petty, but I do not think it is any more futile, mean, and petty than writing a book or making a speech or writing an article. I know that motive does not come within your jurisdiction at all, and I quite admit that if we all got our deserts in this world very few would escape hanging. That is my religion. I will take whatever you like. I wish to say that I approve of the methods of the Suffragettes. The only thing that counts in England to-day is force. I am prepared to do my duty. I am anxious about my country. There are very few people anxious about their country. Mr. Lloyd George, owing to pressure, had declared that women ought to have the vote. Another success which has been secured to the Suffragettes is that you have a political Labour leader—I call him the follower of the working man—saying that it was a most disgusting and disgraceful thing to do as they had done. If these women had votes he would be the last man to talk about their actions being disgusting and disgraceful, and it is only because they have no votes that he is able to take that attitude. The same man said with regard to men that he refused to use the police to keep order in this country, and advocated that men should be allowed to do what they liked in this country, but we must have the police to put down women." Fined 5s. and 5s. damage, or seven days. Mr. Sutor said, "I shall be glad to take seven days."

Miss A. Evans and Mrs. Hope Jones were next charged with breaking four panes of glass at the War Office, the damage being £1. Miss Evans said she objected to the word malice. After forty years of constitutional work for the vote she thought it was high time they took other means, and also she would like to say to the Government that they had better beware how they further provoked the women. Mrs. Jones said she did it to show her loathing of Asquith's dirty trick to women. Miss Evans was fined 40s. and 10s. damage, or fourteen days. Mrs. Jones was fined 10s. and 10s. damage, or seven days.

Mrs. Lawrence's Sister gets Five Days.

Dr. Marie Petrick was fined 5s., or five days, for obstructing the police. Accused said, "I am very glad to have had my part in making this protest."

Mrs. Emily Brandon was also fined 5s., or five days, for obstructing the police.

Mrs. Florence Russell was next charged with breaking a window and fined 5s. and 5s. damage, or five days.

Miss Lillian Mary Bovis was then brought in and charged with breaking a window at the Local Government Board, the damage being 5s. Defendant denied that anybody had seen her throw a stone. She was fined 5s. and 5s. damage, or five days.

Mrs. M. Symons and Mrs. Heasman came next. Mrs. Heasman was charged with throwing a stone at a lamp, the stone glancing off. Defendant denied that there was any danger to the public. Mrs. M. Symons was charged with catching hold of Mrs. Heasman when arrested, and saying, "Where my friend goes I am going." Mrs. Heasman said she had been a law-abiding citizen all her life, but since Mr. Asquith chose to insult the women she should no longer be a peaceful member of the community, but a dangerous member of the community. Mrs. Symons said what she did was by way of protest in the only way open to women at present by demonstrating against the attitude taken up by the British Government against the demands for the enfranchisement of women. Mrs. Heasman was fined 10s., or seven days.

seven days, and Mrs. Symons was fined 5s., or five days, for obstruction.

Miss Marie Neal was next charged with trying to break through the line of police near St. Margaret's Church. Miss Neal contended that the thoroughfare was public, and the police obstructed her in her duty. The magistrate: You have no business to force your way through to the House of Commons. Defendant said it was her duty to help her leaders through to the House of Commons to tell Mr. Asquith that he must kill the Manhood Suffrage Bill. Magistrate: "That is not the way to do it." Defendant: "It is the only way open to us." Fined 5s., or five days.

Mrs. Alice Green was next brought in and charged with catching hold of a tricycle. She did it persistently, and was arrested for obstruction. The defendant said she should continue militant methods until women were ruled by consent instead of by force. Fined 5s., or five days.

Miss Nora Logan was fined 5s., or five days, for obstruction. She said it was a scandalous thing that women should be forced to behave like this in the streets in order to gain their just rights.

Mrs. Hannah Haywood was also charged with obstruction. She said: "I wish to say that this is my attempt, and it has been an exquisitely painful thing to do, to come from a quiet home, and I am a quiet, loving wife and mother. This is my first time, but if things go on this will not be my last time. We are in such dead earnest that these things will occur again if things are not altered." Fined 5s., or five days.

The charge against Mr. Lamartine Yates was withdrawn, and the defendant did not appear.

Mr. Victor Duval.

Mr. Victor Duval came next. Inspector George Fowler said he first saw the defendant climbing over the railings into one of the grass plots very near where the Peel Statue stands. (Mr. Duval at this stage asked that the witnesses might leave the court.) Inspector Fowler, continuing, said the height of the railings was about three feet. The defendant refused to come out, and he was then lifted over the railings by another inspector and a chief inspector. There was no unnecessary violence used. Defendant refused to go away after being lifted over the railings, and was taken into custody. After his arrest he became very violent. He shouted, making jeering and insulting remarks about the police. There was a large crowd, and they had great difficulty in getting him along. They went by way of Cannon Row, and he was troublesome all the way. At the station he was charged with obstructing the police. He denied the charge, and made a complaint of being violently ill-treated by the police.

Defendant then asked to see the plan on which Inspector Fowler had marked a cross at the place where he said defendant was before being lifted over. Mr. Duval here called the magistrate's attention to the fact that he was not in that place. Mr. Musket interposed and said that the mistake was probably due to the inspector not understanding the plan.

Further cross-examined by Mr. Duval, Inspector Fowler denied hearing one of his colleagues say, "Don't let him take that policeman's number." He noticed defendant had a piece of paper in his hand, but did not see several policemen get hold of his wrist and try to get a small piece of cardboard out of it with the policeman's number on. He also denied that policeman at the back of defendant was kicking the defendant's heels all the way. He admitted that his face would be turned towards Cannon Row, but he could see sideways, and declared that policeman was not kicking his heels. He admitted that the defendant was held tightly because he was trying to escape.

Chief Inspector Rolf said he saw the defendant on the green enclosure in Parliament Square; he lifted him up bodily and carried him, and deposited him on the other side of the railings. Defendant resisted while being taken, and called them scoundrels. He saw inspector arrest him. The defendant had every opportunity of going away, but he tried to get back over the railings again. He was very violent indeed after being arrested, kicked, and threw his arms out in all directions to the danger of the crowd, who would have assaulted him but for the protection of the police.

Inspector Shorthouse next gave evidence, and said that defendant would not go away after being lifted over. He was very violent indeed, struggling and calling the police brutes. No unjustifiable violence had been used. It was very difficult indeed to keep people from interfering with defendant.

Dr. Norton was then called to give evidence. He said he was in attendance at the police station in case his services might be required. He was there at the request of the superintendent. He went there at 8 o'clock, and was called to the defendant at 9 o'clock. He had a slight flush at his left ear. He complained of his left wrist, but he could see no injury in this place. He also complained of his left leg. There was dust on his trousers, but there was no injury.

The next witness to be called was Mr. Hugh Franklin. He said that on Tuesday, November 21, he and defendant were standing behind the cordon of police, standing on the railings looking over the police to see what was going on. The police pushed back the crowd. Mr. Duval jumped down and ran across the road, the constable, Whitehall, as though it was his duty to do so.

He saw him writing; he himself was still on the railings. He next saw two inspectors consulting together, and although there were hundreds of constables there, they climbed over the railings themselves. The one put his arms around Mr. Duval's chest, and the other one took him by the feet, and they lifted him over the railings. He saw nothing after, only general scuffle.

Mr. Richmond, of Westmeath School, Hampstead, said he was in the crowd at the east side of Parliament Square, and he saw Mr. Duval being carried violently backwards and forwards by two or three policemen, one pushing him back by the shoulders; one policeman struck him, the number being J271. He struck him on the left side of the head. Mr. Duval turned to him and asked him whether he was a witness to that. He had never seen Mr. Duval before. He had not seen him inside the enclosure. He did not see any resistance on the part of defendant. Cross-examined by Mr. Muskett, Mr. Richmond said he had gone there as an on-looker. He had read a report—Mr. Muskett: "On the look-out?" He said he was a sympathiser with the movement. He had not seen Mr. Duval before. He had attended meetings, but not on that day. He approved of militant methods. He regarded the blow given by J 271 as a distinct cuff. The defendant was offering no resistance.

Mrs. Sykes was then called. She said she was standing on the right hand of Derby Street at 9.15. She heard defendant say to the policemen who were taking him, "Will you stop twisting my arm?" He looked white. She could not see what was being done.

Miss Joan Dugdale said the policemen who were taking the defendant were twisting his arm and pushing him down the street. She heard him cry out, "Leave off twisting my arms." Two policemen were behind him, and one each side. The defendant was not violent.

Mr. Duval asked for adjournment to enable him to call a further witness.

The Hearing on Tuesday.

Mr. John Lauder said he was opposite Whitehall on the right hand corner, when he saw a policeman who had Mr. Duval by the throat; he was about 20 yards away at the time. His head was thrown back, and he had the appearance of being strangled, and he called for witnesses for the assault. He had by that time come up to about a yard away. Mr. Duval was not struggling.

Cross-examined by Mr. Muskett, witness said he had not seen Mr. Duval before, and did not believe in militancy; he came to the square to see what was going on. The police behaved very riotously towards the women at that particular point.

Mr. Muskett: You think the police were guilty of undue violence not only to this gentleman but to the ladies?

Mr. Lauder: That is so, sir. Constable James Wilmott, 271 J, was then called, and he said he had not been out of Barking on November 21.

Cross-examined by Mr. Duval, he was prepared to swear on oath that at no time was he in Parliament Square on the evening of November 21.

Mr. Duval's Statement.

Mr. Duval said that he was charged with obstruction, and yet it had been proved by the evidence given by all the police officers that he was alone in some square of grass, and that they had removed him from the square into the crowd. He went down to the House of Commons in order to see one or two members of Parliament and to find out whether they would come into the square to see fair play. After leaving the House of Commons he walked out with the intention of making observations himself. Then he and Mr. Franklin walked towards the green where he was found later, and they stood on the railing in order to peer over the crowds and to find out what was going on. Mr. Duval proceeded:—

Presently I saw on my left two or three policemen pushing a woman about, and I kept my eyes fixed very intently. I stood and I saw one policeman deliberately hit a woman in the mouth.

The Magistrate: She has not come forward. Mr. Duval: I do not know the name of the woman and I have no knowledge whether she was arrested, but I saw this deliberate act of the police, and as an Englishman I thought it my duty in the interests of law and order to take the name of that policeman, and to give evidence in any subsequent proceedings. The number was F R 32. Then I got on the grass, and as there were heaps of people I got a little further from the railings, and simply wrote down on a piece of card.

Magistrate: You were inside the railings? Yes sir. I cannot find the card, but I think I showed it to you last time. As a matter of fact it was a business house card which I had collected only that day from one of my business clients. I wrote down the number. I then turned to go back to my position when suddenly two inspectors jumped over the railings. One took me by the head and one by the legs and before I knew anything I was lifted and violently pushed over the railings on to the ground on the other side. There were a number of people very closely packed. Another policeman came up whose number I have, F.R. 336, who caught hold of my throat and pushed me back into the crowd. I said, "Why do you treat me like this? Leave me alone, I will go quietly. If you are going to arrest me, I will go with you; I do not want to offer any resistance." But no notice was taken. Police-constable J 271 struck me. On oath he said he had never struck me. I looked at that number three times, and my witness—Mr. Kendrick Richmond—stated that he took "P.C. 271" and noted it at that time, and he got that number, not from me, but from the coat of that policeman; and, therefore, I say there has been deliberate perjury on the part of P.C. 271. No notice was taken of my protest, and I was suddenly taken hold of by Inspector Fowler on the left and by P.C. FR 32 on my right, and he has not been brought into this case to give evidence. These two took me to Cannon Row. Inspector Shorthouse, on his own evidence, followed me a part of the way. My heels were kicked all the way to Cannon Row; my arms were twisted by Inspector Fowler. I did not resist on the way. The crowd did not try to assault me. I simply went quietly along the way.

Mr. Duval then referred to his inspection by the doctor at Cannon Row and proceeded:—

Inspector Fowler has stated that I was on the green on the south of that square and he marked it with a cross. Inspector Rolf said I was on the green, the green that was marked by Inspector Fowler. One mark was south-east, the other mark was nearer the centre. Inspector Shorthouse declared I was not on that green, and that the inspector was wrong. He marked the correct place. I was by the Peel Statue. I had never been on the other green during that evening.

The Magistrate: It does not signify whether you were on that green.

Mr. Duval: It may be significant. If a policeman can make a mistake in a matter of this kind, it is possible for him to give evidence that is not true in other cases. It has been absolutely proved that the evidence of Inspector Fowler is not true. He said he did not get over the green to arrest me. Inspector Rolf said he did get over the green. Inspector Fowler also said that no police officer followed me to the police station, and that I was not kicked as I was being kicked. His eyes were turned towards Cannon Row. How could he see what was taking place behind? Inspector Shorthouse said he did follow but denied kicking my heels, but it is proved that Inspector Shorthouse did follow me part of the way to Cannon Row. It was also stated by Inspector Fowler that I offered resistance and tried to get away. Do you think, sir—I put it to you with all due respect—that if I had wanted to get away I would not have gone in the earlier part of the evening, and later tried to escape? I have never tried, because I know that it is useless. If I had been out on that evening I should have come here to tell you that I was a firm supporter of this Cause, and to tell you I would accept whatever sentence you might impose on me; but when I do nothing, when I go out with no intention of taking any part in a demonstration, I assure you I would not come here and make statements against the police without any foundation.

Mr. Duval added that he was not making a general charge against the police; but there were black sheep in every flock, and there were some policemen who behaved badly on November 31.

He also referred to insulting words which were spoken about his mother in Cannon Row.

Mr. Marsham said there was no doubt the defendant had no business to be in the enclosure, and he thought the officers were perfectly right in removing him from the enclosure. Other people would have been encouraged to go there too. He was not satisfied at all that the police force behaved in any improper way on this occasion.

He thought their conduct seemed to have been very considerate, and thought there would have been a great many more complaints if there had been any foundation for it. He was going to fine him because he thought he obstructed the police in the performance of their duty in getting him to the police station. He would fine him 10s. or 5s. in the second division. The magistrate remarked that cases in which personal violence was used towards the police would be dealt with very differently from the way they had been dealt with by him during the past few days.

Mr. Duval said he was dissatisfied with the magistrate's decision, and wished to ask whether it could be referred to a higher court. Mr. Muskett said he could only appeal to the Home Secretary.

PRISONERS ON TRIAL.

Cases to be heard on Dec. 12 at Newington.

Atheling, Miss Lelegarde
Archdale, Mrs. Helen
Bennett, Miss Sarah
Harvey, Miss V. Hudson
Hudleston, Miss Edith
Jones, Mrs. Mary Violet
Julian, Miss Peggy
Potbury, Miss Isabelle
Robinson, Miss Margaret
Rothwell, Mrs. Roy
Rowe, Mrs. Frances
Slade, Miss Ethel
Smith, Miss A. Connor
Stuart, Miss Grace
Taylor, Miss Evelyn
Wallis, Miss Margaret
Wentworth, Miss Vera
Wharry, Miss Olive
Wilcox, Miss Cissie
Wise, Miss Frances

In opening the December General London Sessions on Tuesday, Mr. Robert Wallace, K.C., said that for the first time for many years there was one class of offence to be dealt with at these sessions.

The offences—that of smashing windows of considerable value in clubs, shops, and public buildings in the West End—arose out of some political disturbances which took place about a fortnight ago. Many women (twenty-one in all) had been sent for trial, owing to the value of the property destroyed being beyond the jurisdiction of the magistrate. The bulk of the cases, however, were dealt with summarily.

Whatever the defence which was going to be raised in the matter of this malicious destruction of property, the question the grand jury had to determine was simply this: If they were satisfied in each instance with the identification of the person accused with that of the individual who did the damage, then, apart from any question of motive or of reason, the grand jury should return a true bill. If the identity was not established—and that was the defence raised in some cases—then, of course, the jury would ignore the bill.

It is understood that next Tuesday, Dec. 12, has been fixed for the trial of the cases.

BY-ELECTION IN SCOTLAND.

AYRSHIRE NORTH.

Candidates.
A. M. Anderson, M.C. (L)
Capt. D. Campbell (C)

Result in Dec. 1910: A. M. Anderson, K.C. (L), 7,286; Capt. D. Campbell (C), 6,382. Lib. maj., 304.

A W.S.P.U. organiser has been appointed, and a vigorous anti-Government campaign will be started immediately. Further particulars will be announced next week.

CHRISTMAS FAIR.

SPECIAL ATTRACTION.

Mrs. Pertwee, 14, Tite St., Chelsea, writes that the following additional artists have kindly given their services:—Miss Agnes Fenings, and Miss Mawson Pianoforte; Miss Dorothea Bear and Mr. Sydney Sherwood, Dancers; Mrs. Garrud and Co., for ju-jitsu display; Miss Rebe Kusmar, violin. Particular attention is called to the play, "The Woman with the Pack," a new piece by Gertrude Vaughan, which will be performed on Friday and Saturday evenings, December 8 and 9, at 9 o'clock. This play may perhaps be described as a Modern Morality. Into a typical twentieth-century group of people, rich and poor, there comes a mysterious symbolic woman. The introduction of this character was suggested by M. Constantin Isenberg's bronze figure of "The Heavy Cross," which was on view at the Doré Gallery during the winter and spring of 1910 and 1911. The title-part is played by Miss Katharine Pole, who is well known in Isenberg parts. The part of the heroine, Philippe Tempest, a typical English girl, is played by Miss Elaine Innescourt. The words for the three tableaux will be spoken by Miss Edyth Olive, and the performance includes a pretty children's dance under the direction of Miss Margaret Morris. The play is being produced by Mr. Gray Murray.

LACE, EMBROIDERY AND ART METAL WORK.

Secs.—Miss Florence E. Cobb, 4, North St., Quadrant, Brighton.

The Secretary thanks all those who have contributed money and goods this week, especially Mrs. A. R. A. Heath, who has sent a parcel of Ceylon native-made lace from Calcutta. One or two parcels have arrived without any mark to indicate from whom they came. A net berth worked with gold and mother of pearl sequins, post-mark something under "Tunbridge Wells," small embroidered needlebooks, post-mark "Staplefield," and a tray cloth and lace edged doyleys with only the letters "S. W." decipherable on the post-mark. Many thanks to the following:—Mrs. Ainger, Mrs. R. Berncastle, Miss Gwenith Bynner, Miss Craig, Miss M. Duncan, Miss Elmes, Miss Ivy Gayford, Miss Haarbleicher, Mrs. Peters, Miss Grace Roe, Mrs. Beatrice Sanders, Mrs. Gordon-Sloane, "Some Ramsay Suffragettes," 10, Southfields Road, Eastbourne, Mrs. Stacey, Miss Streeter, Miss L. Tyson, and Young Purple White and Green Club.

UNDERCLOTHING.

Miss Nelly Crocker, 6, Carlton St., Nottingham.

Thanks to all those who so generously lent their houses for sewing meetings, to those who have contributed goods and money, and to those who worked so splendidly. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Walker, 10s.; Miss de Hersant, 5s.; Mrs. Wallis (tea), 4s. 8d.; Mrs. Hutchinson, £1; Miss Petty, 5s. 8d.; Miss E. Burgess, 10s.; Mrs. Blagg, 5s.; Mrs. Cowan, 2s. 6d.; Miss Eames, 10s.; Mrs. Whindle, 1s.; Mrs. Rothera (tea), 3s.; Miss L. Rothera (sale of two birds), 10s.; Mrs. Rothera, £1 5s. 6d.; Mrs. Barber, £1; Mrs. Shepherd (tea), 2s. 4d.; Mrs. Evans (tea), 2s.; Miss Halliday, 2s. 6d.; Miss Lewin, 3s. 6d.; Mrs. Lloyd Thomas (tea), 2s.; Mrs. Hutchinson (tea), 6s. 2d.; Miss Ann Barber (sale of goods), 9s.; Mrs. Brown, 5s.; Miss E. Roberts, 2s.; Dr. U. Smith, 5s.

BOOK STALL.

Secs.—Miss Evelyn Sharp and Miss Crales, 143, Church Street, Kensington, W.

Warmest thanks to all those who have helped so generously to stock this stall. A splendid supply of books of all sorts and signed copies by many of the best-known writers of the day have been received. All books are marked at shop price, and none will be sold except at that price. Gratefully acknowledged: Books from the following—Miss Eva Martin, Dr. Helen Hanson, Mrs. Tomson, Mrs. Sarah Tooley, Mrs. Cobden Siebert, Miss Elizabeth Robins, Mrs. Alec Tweedie, Miss O. E. Lehmann, Mrs. W. Posnett, Mrs. Mills, Miss E. Postlethwaite, Miss A. M. Robertson, Mrs. Ely, Mr. Laurence Housman (songs), Mrs. Lowry, Mr. T. J. Cobden Sanderson, Mrs. Dearmer, Messrs. Hutchinson, Dr. M. Todd (Graham Travers), Archibald Constable and Co., Miss Jane Grey Perkins, George Bell and Co., Miss H. E. Marshall, Thomas Nelson and Sons, Mrs. Sauter (songs), Truslove and Hanson, Ltd., Mrs. Lee Hamilton, Messrs. Gay and Hancock, Miss M. Martin, Miss Winifred Rose Carey, Miss Abbott, Miss Lynch, Mrs. Herbert Cohen. Contributions—Mrs. Graham, £2 2s.; Miss Graham, £1 1s.; Mrs. H. Silver, 5s.; Miss Lewis, 6d.; Miss Clarke, 10s.

BLOUSE STALL.

Miss Jessie Pease, 377, Goswell Road, E.C.

The Committee and members of the Islington W.S.P.U. wish to tender their hearty thanks to Miss O. Moulden, who has superintended the work parties, and by whose help so many charming blouses have been added to the stall. The Stall Secretary acknowledges gratefully gifts from the Misses Dawson, Miss R. Peacock, Mrs. K. Robinson, Miss R. Stewart, Miss Grattan, Miss Ashton, Miss Goode, Miss Piesenti, Miss Elliot, Miss K. Hoge, Miss Skipper, Miss E. C. Mott, Miss J. Cather, Miss H. Eveleigh, Miss C. Collie, Miss K. Collie, Miss Eunice Fallon, Miss Grant, Miss Anidjah, and Miss Ethel Wedgwood.

TOY STALL.

Miss Leonora Tyson, 5, Shrubbery Road, Streatham, S.W.

The judging committee consisted of Rose Lamartine Yates, Mrs. Holman, Mrs. Schaefer, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Tyler, the Misses Bousfield and Ellison. Doll Competition.—First prize (by six votes to one), baby doll, dressed as Christabel Pankhurst, aged one year, Diana K. Tyson; second prize (five votes to two), Japanese bride, Daisy Koetvren. Toy Competition.—First prize (five votes to two), model of battleship, Mr. Humphrey W. Hills; second prize (five votes to two), toy elephant, Mrs. Madeline Petre.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS.

Hearty thanks for the following contributions:—Wallasey Local Union, goods to the value of £42 12s. 8d.; Miss M. Durrant, 2 housewives, 2 small pin cushions, 2 larger pin cushions, 1 kettle holder, 1 box tray, 1 doll, 1 fancy pin cushion (Chinaman), 1 cot cover, 1 toilet cover, 4 work bags, 1 book of labels, child's crochet bonnet and a parcel of goods from Mrs. J. Squires and friends. Parcel of goods containing purple cloth from Edinburgh, 6 pairs Jaeger shoes, table centre, blouse and original sketch from Miss O. E. Evison. Coconut ice, pin cushion and bag cross-over from Miss M. Pryor and Miss E. V. Bullock.

FOUND.

At Portman Rooms, on Nov. 9, clinical thermometer; at Albert Hall, Nov. 16, gold chain; at the Christmas Fair and Fête, umbrella and rosary. Please apply Miss Kerr, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn.

OUR POST BOX.

MR. PECKSNIF ABROAD IN THE LAND.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—Only a few months ago Mr. Asquith stood up in the House of Commons to make an important Government statement, he was received with a chorus of howls, mingled with shouts of "Who killed the King?" After waiting some twenty minutes, in the hope of obtaining a hearing, he left the House with his statement unmade. Who were the disturbers in this case, were they voteless women? No, only men, our legislators, who not only have votes but the right to express their views in Parliament. When reading the hysterical remarks and comments made in various newspapers and by certain of our worthy Members on the conduct of some women at a meeting addressed by Mr. Asquith last week, we may well marvel at this spirit of hypocrisy so rampant amongst us, which reminds us forcibly of that past master in the art, the immortal Mr. Pecksniff.—Yours, etc., (Mrs.) C. E. MARTIN.

High Street,
Wellington, Somerset.
December 4.

THANKS.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—May I, through the medium of VOTES FOR WOMEN, express my grateful thanks, in which I feel sure the rest of the Union will join, to those voluntary workers who helped me in the preparations for the Christmas Fair. First I must mention Miss Loxwood-King, who has worked continuously for two months in superintending the making of the costumes, and with her all her helpers, especially Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Evelyn, who also devoted the whole of their time to the work. Then the artists: Miss Dorothy Salmon, Mrs. Ricardo, Miss Jessie Mothersole, Mrs. Abbott, Miss Smyth, Miss Muspratt, Miss Birnating, Miss Olive Jonas, and Miss Andrews and her fellow students; also Miss B. M. de Castro, Mrs. Paul, and Miss Holbart-Hampden, who beside the charming signs they prepared beforehand, spent the whole of the first day at the Fair busily printing out notices. I must thank, too, Miss Marie Brackenbury, who has taken so large a part in the organisation of the street cries; also Mr. Wilfred Whitten, Miss Winifred Auld, and Miss Lamb, who gave so much help in the research work, as well as the criers themselves, especially Lady Sybil Smith, who not only sang several of the songs herself but found other friends to do so. I must also thank members of the M.P.U. who so readily and efficiently carried out my suggestions in regard to the roundabout and other shows for which their Union was responsible. Readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN may be interested to know that the roundabout, which has been such a great attraction at the Portman Rooms, and also various stalls and fittings, are for sale at the close of the Fair. Many of the latter would work up into very good kitchen dressers or shop fittings with a little alteration, and, of course, could be bought more cheaply at the Portman Rooms than if made specially. Any who wish to buy fittings may learn further particulars on application to the Fête Secretary at Clements Inn, Strand, W.C. We must not forget, too, the army of workmen who worked with me continuously through Saturday night, Sunday, Sunday night, and on until the Fair opened, owing to the short time allowed for putting up the decorations in position.—Yours, etc., E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

3, Cambridge Lodge Studios,
42, Linden Gardens,
Notting Hill Gate, W.

A WARNING TO SUFFRAGIST TEACHERS

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—As a new N.U.T. year commenced on December 1, may I beg all Suffragist teachers (N.U.T. members) who in the past have paid their annual subscription in monthly instalments to withhold the full payment, or part payment, until after the Easter conference. In spite of the Suffrage resolution having been carried to a successful issue at local Association meetings, I have heard that certain probable delegates to the Conference intend to vote against the Suffrage resolution which they have pledged themselves to support. Let us all wait and see what action the N.U.T. officials will take over the matter at Hull. Also may I suggest another caution, viz. the absolute necessity of being present at all Association Meetings between now and Easter, and voting only for those delegates and members of the Executive who are favourable to justice being done to women teachers.—Yours, etc., KATE CARTER.

Another teacher points out that it is not enough to pass resolutions expressing sympathy with Woman Suffrage without making sure that they are sent to their destinations. At one local branch a sympathetic resolution was passed on September 16, but did not reach Russell Square until October 23. The local secretary is a strong opponent of the enfranchisement of women.

MRS. DUVAL'S CASE.

In reference to the Bow Street cases last week, Captain Gonne writes that "as his name was mentioned in the reports of the trial of Mrs. Duval, he thinks it right the following should be known:—

In February, 1909, Mrs. Duval was charged with striking a policeman. She had no intention of committing an offence, and had not done so. Captain Gonne introduced his solicitor, who defended her in court. This gentleman was able to substantiate by reputable witnesses the movements of Mrs. Duval during the whole time in question, and so conclusively proved that, far from having forced her way between two lines of a police cordon, she had not even been on the same pavement. Mr. Muskett, the prosecutor, remarked in court, "It must have been a case of mistaken identity." However, Sir Albert de Rutzen sent Mrs. Duval to prison for six weeks, under conditions which admitted of no appeal. Captain Gonne has tried his best to bring the matter to official notice, but hitherto all channels have been blocked by the Public Authorities Protection Act.

Mrs. Amelie Bennett, who broke a window in the Daily Mail office, asks us to say that her husband was paid by Lord Northcliffe, and not by Asquith.

CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Members are reminded that the Christmas holidays will provide an opportunity of gaining new subscribers to **VOTES FOR WOMEN**.

W.S.P.U. General Offices: 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

CLAPHAM.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Strong, 4, Elapheth Road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

More paper-sellers are wanted, as a new pitch has been started outside Clapham Tube Station; this promises to be most successful if properly worked up. Volunteers have come forward for Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Who will give some time on Fridays and Mondays? Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Churcher, pretty silk bows, many of which have already been sold, also a beautifully worked tea cosy in the colours, which is on sale, price 5s.; Miss Osburn-Lilly, 1s.

HAMPSTEAD.

Shop and Office—173, Finchley Road.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Hicks and Miss G. Collier.

Children should all visit the Children's Fair to be held in the shop from December 12 to 21. The great attraction will be a Christmas tree laden with toys, the gift of Mrs. Arnold-Sennett; there will also be a braided, penny dips, etc., etc. The Hampstead Union is proud of the following members who have served various terms of imprisonment in connection with the recent demonstration: Miss Katherine Armstrong, Mrs. Brailsford, Mrs. Brindley, Mrs. Sadd Brown, Miss Vera Meyer, Miss M. Rowlett, Miss Rice, Mrs. Arcliffe Sennett, Miss M. Thompson. Miss Brackenbury spoke to a deeply interested and sympathetic crowd on Hampstead Heath last Sunday. Gratefully acknowledged for General Fund: Mrs. Levy, 4s.; Miss M. Levy, 4s.; Mrs. Frazer, 1s. For Bazaar expenses: Mrs. Peartree, 21s.; Mrs. Blincoe, 22s.

ILFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Haslam, 65, Cranbrook Road.

Local members have worked hard for the Christmas Fête. Miss Patmore has been indefatigable as fête secretary and her efforts have been splendidly responded to. Blouses and donations from the following members and friends are gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Silstone (proceeds of work), 21s.; Misses Webster, Miss Winfield, Miss Regan, Mrs. Towell, Mrs. Delahoyde, Es., Mrs. Bishop, 2s. 6d. A large audience assembled at Ilford S. Station on Saturday to hear Mrs. Bouvier, papers sold well.

ISLINGTON.

Office—347, Goswell Road, E.C. Hon. Sec.—Miss E. M. Casterley.

On Wednesday evening, December 13, all goods left over from the Bazaar Stall at Portman Rooms will be on sale at the office, at a reduced rate, to members and friends. The office will in future be open on Wednesday and Thursday evenings only. A jumble sale will be held shortly after Christmas; members please send parcels to the office as soon as possible.

LAMBETH.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. A. M. Hawkins, 69, Backford Road, Brixton.

Mrs. McKeown and Miss Heatty spoke to an interested audience in Claylands Hall on Wednesday. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Charles, 5s.; Mrs. Fozon, 1s.; Mrs. Steer, 1s.

LEWISHAM.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Christina Campbell, Miss C. Townsend, Office—21, Berlin Road, Catford.

On Sunday, November 26, Mrs. Bouvier held a successful meeting at Catford Tram Terminus. Will members please note that gifts of men's clothing will find ready purchasers at the Jumble Sale?

NORTH ISLINGTON AND HORNSEY.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Constance Bryer, 49, Tufnell Pl., N. Gratefully acknowledged for Fair and Fête: Miss Jolly, 12s.; Mrs. Jones, 12s. 6d.; Miss Leonie Harland, goods; carrier's charges, Mrs. Fox; Miss Jenman, socks.

N.W. LONDON.

Office—315, High Road, Kilburn, Tel. 1183, Hampstead. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Fann Gaskell.

The At Home on November 27 was a great success. Members and their friends, who came in great numbers, listened with delight to the very witty address given by Mrs. Pertwee and the charming items by Miss Constance Goodman, Miss Edna Crome, and Miss Joan Dugdale. It is hoped that some of the released prisoners will be at the At Home on December 12. A delightful evening is assured. Will any members who by change of address or some accident have not received invitations, kindly let the secretary know? Will members please help in the distribution of handbills, which they can get at the office? Many thanks to all who helped the Jumble Sale, which has been most successful.

PADDINGTON AND MARYLEBONE.

Shop and Office—55, Praed Street, W.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Haverfield.

A Jumble Sale will be held at the shop on Saturday, December 16, from 2.30 to 7.30. Any contributions, especially clothing, will be gratefully received.

PINNER.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Terrero, Rockstone House.

Over £5 was realised at the Jumble Sale at Love Lane Hall on December 2. Grateful thanks to all those who contributed gifts and assisted at the stall. "How the Vote was Won" will be acted by a local theatrical company at Love Lane Hall on December 12 and 13. As tickets are selling rapidly, early application should be made.

WEST HAM.

Hon. Sec.—Miss D. M. Hooper, Old Manor Farm, Squirrels Heath, Essex.

Two successful open-air meetings have been held at The Grove, when Miss Bonwick and Miss Haslam were the speakers. The Barham Hall has been taken for a dance on January 4, 1912, in order to raise funds for a series of meetings to be held in the small Barham Hall. Will members please take tickets and advertise this dance among their friends? Thanks to Miss Healey's efforts the Jumble Sale resulted in a good addition to the funds. Many thanks to Miss C. Bar for her contribution. Will members send in their subscriptions now due to Miss Healey, 356, High Street, North-East Ham?

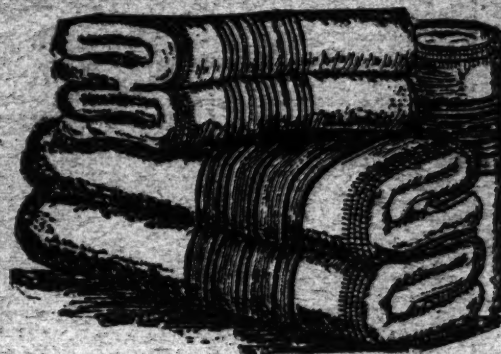
WIMBLEDON.

Shop and Office—3, Victoria Crescent, Broadway, Wimbledon. Tel. 1892, P.O. Wimbledon.

Hon. Organising Sec.—Mrs. Lamartine Yates.

Dorset Hall, Wotton, Surrey.

There was a splendid meeting in the Broadway on Saturday evening, when a large crowd listened to Miss Gwen Richard. Many interesting questions were

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Borders, size about 74 by 60 ins.

One Small Bed Blanket, with Blue Border,
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SWEETS
PUDDINGS

The Full Christmas List, illustrated, sent post free.

answered, and, as usual, the Broadway audience was to be congratulated on its sense of fair-play. A collection was taken, and papers sold well. The Lecture Hall series which is now completed has been an unqualified success, and all who contributed as speakers of helpers are cordially thanked. The annual general meeting was held on December 1, when there was a large attendance. The report of the year's work and balance sheet was adopted with acclamation, and the Committee re-elected. A public At Home will be held on December 15 (see programme), when it is hoped to welcome Mrs. Bacon on her release from Holloway. The Nursery Stall will be a special feature, and invitations to the form of illustrated price lists in the colours may be obtained at the office for distribution by members among their friends. Members are asked to send in promises at once to supply refreshments for this occasion, as these will be served throughout the At Home at a small charge. All promises in kind should be delivered at the Lecture Hall early on December 15. Stewards will be wanted in large numbers, and should if possible wear white with the colours. An excellent meeting was held on Sunday, on the Common. Miss Eliza Myers addressed a very large audience, and Mrs. Hutt proved an able chairman. "Votes for Women" were sold out.

Home Counties.

BRIGHTON, HOVE AND DISTRICT.

Office—3, North Street, Quadrant. Tel. 4883 Nat.
Organiser—Miss G. Allen.

On Tuesday, Nov. 28, a crowded meeting was addressed by Miss Isabel Seymour at Henfield. Miss Elizabeth Robins was in the chair. Both speakers were listened to with rapt interest, and several new members were gained. The organiser would like to thank all those who helped to make this first W.S.P.U. meeting at Henfield a success, especially Miss Lewis, Miss Comber, and the ladies at the Violet Farm—the platform decorated by the last mentioned was especially pretty. Members are requested to note that the week-end speaker will be Miss Lennox, and after next Sunday the meetings will cease until the New Year.

CANTERBURY AND SOUTH KENT.

Organiser—Miss F. E. M. Macaulay, Travarra, 33, Bouvrie Road West, Folkestone.

Very hearty thanks to all those who have worked and given so splendidly for the Soap, Scent, and Handkerchief Stall. The organiser wishes to take this opportunity of expressing her keen appreciation of their co-operation, and trusts their efforts will be rewarded by this week's results. All who can, are urgently entreated to visit the stall, and bring as many purchases as possible with them during the two remaining days. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Leonora Tyson, of Streatham, handkerchief sellers; Miss B. Richards, of North Islington, handkerchiefs. Many thanks, too, to Miss Evelyn Whiskay for the beautiful signboard she has designed and made for the stall. On Thursday week a meeting was held at the County Hotel to explain the resumption of militant tactics. Very hearty thanks to the hostess, Mrs. Tomkins, who lent her beautiful room, provided the tea, and defrayed the cost of printing and sending out notices.

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

Organiser—Miss D. A. Bowker. Shop: 3, Trinity Street, Hastings. Telephone 4, 794.

The meeting arranged for Friday, December 5, had to be postponed owing to the regrettable illness of Mrs. Hinchcliff, and the impossibility of procuring another speaker at such short notice. There was a second sale of papers after the demonstration. Members are urged to contribute for the resumption on Friday and Saturday, as during the cold weather it is impossible to stand the long queues of lines. Gratefully acknowledged:

Mrs. Sieveking, 10s., on hearing of the City Temple protest.

Mon., Dec. 11.—8, Trinity Street; At Home, 4.6 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 12.—Bexhill, 25, Everley Road, 3 p.m.

HITCHIN, LETONWORTH, & DISTRICT.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Goodfellow, Elm Tree House, Letonworth; Mrs. E. B. Impy, 2, Whinbush Road, Hitchin.

Many thanks for gifts of money and goods from the following: Miss Sayle, Miss H. Birnating, Miss Maud Mace, Mrs. A. H. Levey, Miss Marjorie Cosens, Mrs. and Miss Casey, Mrs. E. Baines, Dr. Outram, Miss Tudor, The Reading W.S.P.U., Mrs. Hutchison, Miss A. Clayton and Miss Robertson.

OXFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Graham, 27, Forham Road.

Members are asked to advertise the meeting on Wednesday, December 13, and to get their tickets beforehand. Tickets, price 1s., 3d., and 1d., can be bought from "Emberline" 4, Magdalen Street. Wed., Dec. 13.—Assembly Room, Lady Isabel Margesson, Mr. Joseph O'ayton. Chair: Mrs. Richards, 8 p.m.

PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON.

Organiser—Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 4, Palham Road, Portsmouth, and 61, Oxford Street, Southampton.

The local prisoners are Miss Cumberland, Mrs. Hunt, Miss Lewis and Mrs. Taylor. Arrangements are being made for a "welcome tea party," particulars to be given later. Southampton members are urged to work their hardest for the bazaar in aid of local campaign. Portsmouth members must all help to make the entertainment a success. "How the Vote was Won" is one of the items on the programme. More paper-sellers are needed. Will those who cannot sell in the streets, try to get new subscribers? It has been suggested that members who cannot take part in militant action should pay fines towards the funds. Contributions should be sent to the organiser. Gratefully acknowledged: Towards bazaar—Mrs. Wier, 21s.; Miss F. M. Alloway, 2s. 6d. In honour of the prisoners—Mrs. Seymour, 21s.; Mrs. Bullin, 3s.; Miss Penock, 21s.; Miss Mabel Pascock, 10s.; Anon., per Fraulien Freideberg, 1s.

Mon., Dec. 11.—Portsmouth, Town Hall Square, 7.30 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 12.—Southampton, Sewing Meeting, 3.30-6.30 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 13.—Southampton, Clock Tower, 7.30 p.m.

READING AND NEWBURY.

Shop and Office—48, Market Place.
Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss O. L. Cobb.

Many thanks to all who have worked for the Reading portion of the Bazaar Stall. Their labours resulted in over 234 worth of goods. Newbury contributed £10 12s. worth in addition. Members may bring as many friends as they wish to the prisoners' reception, but are asked to let the hon. sec. know how many to expect.

Thurs., Dec. 14.—48, Market Place. Ex-prisoners At Home, 8 p.m.

REDHILL.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Cather, The Red Cottage, Cammish Road.

There will be a sale of sweets at the Carlton Room on Saturday, December 16, from 4 to 6 and from 7 to 9 o'clock. Members are asked to bring their friends and to make the sale as widely known as possible. Refreshments will be given, and tea will be served at 3d. and 6d. per head. Admission 2d. A free dip in the bath plus all purchases. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Wright, 2s.; Miss Hardy, 10s.; Miss Quinlan, 10s.; Mrs. Patten, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Wyatt, 21s.; Miss Neave, 2s. Home-made sweets and other sweet welcome gifts have

been received from Miss Pringle, Miss Waller, Miss M. Lawrence, Mrs. May, The Misses R. and L. May, Miss Dolly Ware, Miss Montgomery, Miss Mayes, Miss Luby, Miss Barry, Miss Lindsay, Miss McCoombe, and Mrs. Hall.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND EAST GRINSTEAD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Harrison, 4, Mayfield Road, Boyne Park.

A meeting of local members was held on Thursday last, which resulted in the formation of a local union. Miss Hicks, M.A., of London, presided. The following office-bearers were elected: hon. sec., Miss Harrison and Miss Olive Walton; hon. treas. and votes for women sec., Miss Ethel Wedgwood; hon. canvassing sec., Miss Durham; without special office, Mrs. Ireland. Although active work by the W.S.P.U. was only started in Tunbridge Wells about seven months ago, some idea of the intensity of militant feeling in these parts may be gathered from the fact that five Tunbridge Wells members were on the recent protest-representation in London, three of whom have suffered imprisonment. Tues., Dec. 12—8, Mayfield Road, Boyne Park, 3 p.m.

WEST AND NORTH KENT.

Organiser—Miss Evelyn Billing, 121, Canterbury Road, Gillingham.

Large crowds have attended the open-air meetings recently held in Rochester, Upatham and Gillingham; and 100 papers were sold at meetings within four days. Further Fête contributions very gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. and the Misses Stelf, 21; Miss Benett, 1s.; Mrs. Muir, 10s.; Dr. Alice Black, goods. Also warm thanks to Miss Ethel Wedgwood for £10 towards general funds.

WOKING.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Horace Barrett, Maybury Croft, Heathside.

The first meeting of the above branch was held at Maybury Croft on Monday, Nov. 20. Mrs. Horace Barrett was in the chair, and the Hon. Mrs. Harvett was the speaker. The meeting was well attended, and new members joined. Gratefully acknowledged, a cheque from L. Stanbury, Esq. Tuesday, Dec. 12—Maybury Croft, Heathside. Mrs. Hicks, Dr. Ethel Smyth, 3.15 p.m.

LONDON MEETINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK.

| December. | | | |
|---------------|--|--|-----------------|
| Friday, 8 | Hackney Baths, Lower Clapton | Debate | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Road, N.B. | Dr. Gordon Clark, Chair: Miss Bowerman | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Harrow Road, "Prince of Wales" (outside) | Mrs. McKewen | 8 p.m. |
| " " | New Barnet, The Triangle | The Lady Isabel Margesson, Chair: Mrs. Garrett-Anderson | 2.30-10.30 p.m. |
| " " | Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W. | Miss Hopkins | 8 p.m. |
| Saturday, 9 | Harlesden, Manor Park Road | Miss B. Wilding Davison, B.A. | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Ilford, Balfour Road | Miss Richard | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Kilburn, Birchington Road | Lady Knyvett, Chair: Mrs. Lynton | 2.30-10.30 p.m. |
| " " | Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W. | Lt. Col. G. A. Heald, Esq. | 7 p.m. |
| " " | Christmas Fair and Fête | Mrs. Dickinson | 11.30 a.m. |
| " " | Wimbledon Broadway | Miss Georgina Brackenbury | 3 p.m. |
| Sunday, 10 | Hampstead Heath | Competition, Mrs. Slade | 2-10 p.m. |
| " " | Wimbledon Common | Miss Elsa Myers | 8 p.m. |
| Monday, 11 | Croydon, 50, High Street | Mrs. Patrick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B., and Miss Eva Moore | 2.15 p.m. |
| " " | Kilburn, Victoria Road | Miss Bonwick, B.A. | 8 p.m. |
| " " | London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus, W. | Miss Myers | 8 p.m. |
| " " | New Southgate, Adult School Hall, Palmers Road | Children's Fair | 8 p.m. |
| Tuesday, 12 | Brixton, Angell Road | Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Constance Koopman, Miss Nora Hastings, Miss Joan Dugdale, and others | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Hampstead, 178, Finchley Road | Miss Lennox, Chair: Miss Startup | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Ilford, Town Hall (outside) | Sewing Meeting | 6.30-9 p.m. |
| " " | Kilburn, 215, High Road, At Home | Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B., At Home, Mrs. Webb, Mrs. Shalard | 3 p.m. |
| Wednesday, 13 | High Barnet, Tilbury's Fields | Miss Margaret Cameron, Mrs. G. Gladstone Solomon, Chair: Mr. E. W. Bridges Hutt | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Kilburn, St. Ann's Hall, Salisbury Road | Mrs. McKewen, Chair: Hon. Mrs. Haverfield | 8.15 p.m. |
| " " | Paddington, 50, Praed Street | Women's Adult Class, Miss Haslam At Home, Miss C. I. Green, Hostess: Mrs. Thomas | 8 p.m. |
| Thursday, 14 | Coulsdon, St. Andrew's Hall | Mrs. Pethick, Chair: Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B. | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Ilford | Speakers' Class, Miss Rosa Leo | 7.45 p.m. |
| " " | Kenley, The Larches | Miss Guttridge | 8 p.m. |
| " " | Kensington Town Hall | At Home and Welcome to Released Prisoner | 3 to 10 p.m. |
| Friday, 15 | 4, Clements Inn, W.C. | | |
| " " | Hackney Baths, Lower Clapton Road | | |
| " " | New Barnet, The Triangle | | |
| " " | Wimbledon Common, Lecture Hall, Lingfield Road | | |

The Midlands.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

Office—97, John Bright Street. Tel. 1443 Midland. Organisers—Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Gladys Hazel.

Thanks to members' indefatigable efforts, the Town Hall meeting was a magnificent success. Messrs. Griffiths and Boldero and Warriner of the Men's League have arranged a conference of all societies interested in the position of women, to discuss the Insurance Bill on Friday, December 8. Further particulars can be had at the office. Will as many members as possible attend to help to emphasise the need of the vote? The meeting on December 13 will be the last until January 17.

Sun., Dec. 10.—Stourbridge, Sunday Labour Hall, Miss Gladys Hazel, 6.30 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 13.—Queen's College, "The Nondescripts," 8 p.m.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Office—14, Bowling Green Street, Leicester. Tel. 1715 Leicester. Organiser—Miss Dorothy Pethick.

A meeting has been arranged for Wednesday, December 13 (see below), and as time is short and many workers are busy with the Fête and Fair in London, will all those members who can spare any time in delivering handbills, please call for them at the shop? The success of the meeting depends entirely on the way members work. The proceeds of the stall will be announced that evening and a welcome also given to the prisoners. Reserved tickets, 1s., can be had at the shop. Many gifts of money and articles have been received during the last two weeks—the money will be found acknowledged in the contribution list; for all other gifts hearty thanks. "The Christmas stall at the shop is now open and all who cannot go to London are urged to select their Christmas presents as far as possible at the shop, where some most charming things are to be found. Goods that are not sold in London will be sold at the shop from next Monday. Please make this widely known to all your friends.

Wed., Dec. 13.—Leicester Corn Exchange, Henry Nevinnson, Esq., Dr. Pemberton Peake, Chair, Miss D. Pethick, 8 p.m.

NOTTINGHAM.

Office—3, Carlton Street. Tel. 1511.

Organisers—Miss Roberts and Miss Crocker.

Members were glad to have the pleasure of hearing Dr. Fairhead on Tuesday, Nov. 28. Mrs. Bolton, Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Cowan also gave an account of their part in the recent Protest. Miss Hutchinson was in the chair. Members please note that tickets (1s. 6d. each), for the Welcome Supper (see below) are on sale at the shop and from Miss Burgess and Mrs. Wright. The meeting previously announced for Dec. 12 has been cancelled.

Tues., Dec. 12.—Morley's Café, Wheelwrights, Welcome Supper to Miss Lilian Hocking and others, 7.30 p.m.

West of England.

AXMINSTER.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Clarence, Coarson, Mrs. Ramsey, Oak House.

Members were able to send a good contribution of bags of various sorts to the West of England stall at the Fête and Fair. Heartly thanks to Mr. Moon and Mr. Webster for their very generous gifts.

BRISTOL.

Office—37, Queen's Road, Clifton, Tel. 1335.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Dora Willcox. Hon. Treas. Mrs. Young.

Miss Alice Walters' dramatic company is now quite prepared to perform "How the Vote was Won" anywhere in the country or at bazars or anything else not actually in connection with the W.S.P.U., her terms being expenses and half profit for the work in Bristol. It is a most efficient company and can ensure the audience a thoroughly delightful and entertaining evening. The Monday afternoon At Home was discontinued till January 15. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Merryweather, 2s.; Collection, 4s. 9d.; Mrs. Morris Fowler, 2s.; Mrs. Falk, 1s.; Miss Edgewood, 2s.; Miss Croker, 2s. 6d.; Miss Braybrook, 5s.; Miss Strangways, 2s.; Miss Amy March, 10s.; Per—Miss Jessie Smith; Mrs. Wills, 1s.; Mrs. Lansdown, 1s.; Miss Janet Deans, 1s. 6d.; Miss G. Buckingham, 1s.; Miss Isa Buckingham, 1s.; Miss Jessie Smith, 4s. 6d.; Collection, 15s. 10d.; Mrs. Wilson, 5s.; Profits on Jubilee Sale, 21s. 1d.; Collection, 11s. 9d.; Mrs. Montague (travelling expenses), 15s. 4d.

TORQUAY AND PAIGNTON.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Halse, Seawood, St. Andrew's Road, Pailinton.

Best thanks to the members who sent such a splendid supply of bags and baskets for the West of England stall, also for the collection made for the W.S.P.U. After the Christmas holidays all must concentrate on a big meeting.

TROWBRIDGE.

Hon. Sec.—Miss J. Meach, Roadhill House, Road, Bath.

A successful drawing-room meeting was held (by kind permission of Mrs. Patten) at Roadhill House,

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SOILED GOWN and 4s.

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Thanks to Mrs. Peacock for so ably arranging the Stowmarket meeting which was most successful. Thurs., Dec. 14.—Ipswich, St. Michael's Parish Hall, Mrs. Mansel, Mrs. Gilling, Miss Margaret Pison, 8 p.m.

NORWICH AND DISTRICT.

Organiser—Miss Margaret West, 6, Essex Street, Norwich.

Thanks to those members who have kindly contributed to the campaign fund, as well as those who have volunteered for paper-selling on Saturday mornings. Yarmouth—Miss Guthrie (hon. sec.) gratefully acknowledges the following contributions to the work-party fund: Miss Bond, 2s.; Miss Bunn, 2s.; Miss B. Burton, 2s.; Mrs. Harbord, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Rogers, 2s.; Miss B. Row, 2s. 6d.; Anon., 2s. 6d.; Mrs. and Miss Teasdale, charming woollen evening head-wrap, and pair of d'oyles; received for sale of two bags, 3s., and sale of work materials, 1s. 6d. Thanks to Mrs. Ryley, Mrs. Williams, and Mrs. Wyllys for kindly entertaining the work-party, and to Miss Peace for doing all the cutting-out.

Sat., Dec. 9.—Yarmouth, Members' Meeting, 3 p.m.; Gorleston Liberal and Radical Club, debate, 8 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 13.—Norwich, Glenridge, Carrow Hill, Drawing-room meeting, Mrs. Mansel, Hostess: Miss Collins, 3 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 14.—St. Olave's (near Yarmouth), Heathercote, Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Margaret West, Hostess: Mrs. Combe, 3 p.m.

North-Eastern Counties.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD.

Organiser—Miss Annie Williams, 1, Fitzwilliam St. West, Huddersfield.

The public meeting at Ripponden on Wednesday, November 29, was a splendid success. The room was crowded by a thoroughly representative audience, keen to hear the story of Votes for Women. The paper was sold out and the Misses Booth and Holroyd, who had generously made themselves financially responsible for the Hall, were able to hand over to the funds a very satisfactory collection. Ripponden is going to do great things, in meetings, in getting new members, and in paper-selling. Many thanks to all those who have sent articles for the Christmas Fair, and to Miss Lettice Lloyd for £3, Miss Lowenthal, £1; Mrs. Miller, 21 10s.; Miss Kilburn, 5s.; Mrs. Lawson, 5s.; Miss Green, 5s.

Fri., Dec. 8.—Huddersfield, Parochial Hall, Mrs. Jagger, Dr. Helena Jones, 8 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 10.—Huddersfield, L.L.P. Albany Chambers, Buxton Road, Miss Anna Williams, 7 p.m.

Mon., Dec. 11.—Fitzwilliam Street W., Organiser At Home, 2-4 p.m.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT.

Office—3, Cockridge Street.

Organiser—Miss Mary Phillips.

The value of the goods sent up to the Christmas Fête reached the total of over £40—a marvellous result considering the time in which it has been done, and one on which Mrs. Dodgson is to be very highly congratulated.

Mon. 11.—Normanton, Hopetown, Women's Adult School, Miss Mary Phillips, 7.30 p.m.

Tues. 12.—Leeds, 3, Cockridge Street, Speakers' Class, Miss A. Walker, 7.20 p.m.

Thurs. 14.—Hunslet, L.R.C. Women's Guild, Waterloo Street, Miss Mary Phillips, 8 p.m.

NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT.

Office—7, Blackett Street.

Organiser—Miss Laura Ainsworth.

Members have been working hard to increase the circulation of the paper during the past few weeks. Now that militancy has been resumed the organiser appeals strongly for members to help in the following

ways—Giving drawing-room meetings, gaining new members, and subscribing to the funds. This district has incurred great expense lately and the organiser wishes to clear it all before Christmas. Mrs. Boyd, of Durham, was welcomed in the Town Hall last Tuesday. Members are asked to visit the shop before purchasing Christmas presents. South Shields members must have been gratified at the large attendance at their monthly meeting last Friday. Offers of drawing-room and kitchen meetings have been received. Will others follow this example? Sunderland members are reminded that the Co-operative Hall meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 14th, instead of 21st. There will be a cake and candy sale, and it is hoped to have a large attendance.

Sat., Dec. 9.—Newcastle, Haymarket, 7.30 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 10.—Newcastle, Socialist Sunday School, 3 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 12.—Tynemouth, drawing-room meeting, Lady Parsons, Mrs. Taylor. Hostess: Mrs. Thelwall.

Wed., Dec. 13.—Newcastle, prisoners' welcome.

Thurs., Dec. 14.—Sunderland, Co-operative Hall Green Street, 7.30 p.m.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT.

Office—25-27, Chapel Walk, Sheffield.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Coxhill.

The Jubilee Sale will be held to-morrow, Saturday (see below). Sellers are most urgently wanted. All jumbles to be sent to the shop on Friday, or straight to the hall early to-morrow morning. There will be a special Christmas Show at the shop next week. Cakes, sweets, etc., are welcomed for sale.

Sat., Dec. 9.—Co-operative Hall, Jubilee Sale.

North-Western Counties.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT.

Office—11, Renshaw Street. Tel.: 3761 Royal.

Organiser—Miss Davies.

The organiser wants to thank members who acted as stewards and literature sellers at the Sun Hall on Monday, November 22. The meeting was an amalgamation of three societies. The success of the demonstration was largely due to the decoration committee—Miss Faethorpe, Miss Copeman, and Mr. Jenkins and to the splendid choir organised by Miss Witzell.

ROCHDALE.

Office—2a, Balliol Street. Hon. Lit. Sec.—Mrs. M. Scott, 18, Mayfair Gardens, Rochdale.

Dr. Helena Jones will speak in Rochdale on Friday, Dec. 15. Members are urged to do their utmost to make the meeting a success.

WALLASEY.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Mahood, Burscough Bridge, Lancs. Mrs. F. Heathcote, 21, St. Martin's Lane, Liscard.

A splendid audience listened with much interest to Mrs. Rosling, of Southport, on Monday, November 27. There was a good sale of literature. A most creditable box of gifts was sent off on Thursday to the Christmas Fair and Fête, amounting to the value of £44. Will paper-sellers please send in their names to Mrs. Heathcote—the circulation must be increased at this important time.

Mon., Dec. 11.—1, Mainwaring Road, Seacombe, Mrs. Avery, Miss Davies, 8 p.m.

Scotland.

DUNDEE AND EAST FIFE.

Office—61, Nethergate. Organiser—Miss Fraser Smith, M.A. Hon. Sec.—Miss McFarlane.

Miss Emma Wylie will be the speaker on Wednesday (see below). Will all members and friends unite to make this meeting one of hearty welcome to her.

Sat., Dec. 9.—Flower Market Stall, 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 13.—61, Nethergate, Miss H. Wylie, 8 p.m.



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Try FLAKO this week on your Woollens, Flannels, Laces, Silks, and Fine Fabrics.

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AN EXCELLENT HAIR WASH.

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Soap Makers by Appointment to H.M. King George V.

EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND.

Office—2, Melville Place, Queensferry Street.
 Shop Secretary—Miss Edith Hudson.
 Organiser—Miss Lilias Mitchell. Tel.: 618 Central.
 A cake and candy sale will be held in the shop on Saturday next (see below). Members are asked to do their utmost to make this a success. Bills for sending to friends may be had at the shop. All contributions of cakes, sweets, or money will be warmly welcomed. Grateful thanks to Miss M. Low, 10s.; Miss E. Russell, 21s.; Miss A. Walton, 21s.; and Miss I. Clark (sale of coffee), 4s.—for Shop Fund. Mrs. Drummond's racy exposition of the political situation last Thursday afternoon and evening, delighted members. Mrs. Grieve, of Collieston, gave an account of November 21. Many thanks to speakers and sellers who helped to make last week's open-air meetings a success. Tickets for the welcome supper in honour of local prisoners are now on sale at the office. Members are asked to apply for these not later than to-morrow (Saturday).
 Sat., Dec. 9.—13, Hardgate, The Studio, Miss E. Wylie, Miss E. Russell, 3.30 p.m.
 Mon., Dec. 11.—Oak Hall, Edinburgh Café, welcome supper for prisoners, 8 p.m.
 Tues., Dec. 12.—Drawing-room meeting, Miss Burns. Hostess: Mrs. Rennie, 3 p.m.
 Wed., Dec. 13.—Tranent, Town Hall, Miss Williams, Chair. Provost Young, 8 p.m.
 Thurs., Dec. 14.—Oak Hall, Edinburgh Café, At Home, Miss Williams, 3 p.m., 8, Melville Place, 8 p.m.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

Shop and Office—502, Sauchiehall Street.
 Tel.: 618, Charing Cross. Organiser—Miss Wylie.
 Over seven hundred copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold last week by paper-sellers. Mrs. Drummond made a rousing speech in the Co-operative Hall, Port Glasgow, on Tuesday. At a drawing-room meeting given by Mrs. Guest on Thursday, the present situation and militant tactics were discussed. A most interesting address on "Woman Suffrage and the Future of the Race" was given by Miss Cook at the weekly At Home, and a successful cake and candy sale, arranged by Mrs. Allan, was held in Helensburgh on the same day. Over £20 was taken on Saturday at the Jumble Sale.
 Fri., Dec. 8.—Charing Cross Hall, At Home, Miss Emma Wylie, 3.30 p.m.
 Sat., Dec. 9.—Office, Cake, Candy and Bric-a-Brac Sale, opened by Miss Janie Allan, 3 to 8 p.m.
 Mon., Dec. 11.—Stewarton, Cunningham Institute, Miss Grace Hay, M.A., Miss Parker, 8 p.m.
 Tues., Dec. 12.—Anderston, Open-air, Miss E. Maclean, Miss Smyth.
 Wed., Dec. 13.—Cranston's, Prisoners' reception, 8 p.m.
 Thurs., Dec. 14.—Constitutional Hill, Johnstone, Miss Emma Wylie, 8 p.m.
 Fri., Dec. 15.—Charing Cross Hall, Rev. D. Graham, Miss Affelino Bourne, 3.30 p.m.

CLERKS' W.S.P.U.

Hon. Secs.—Miss Phyllis Ayton, 62, Edith Road, West Kensington. Miss Cynthia Maguire, 15, Carlton Vale, Maida Vale, N.W.
 Members are asked to attend the meeting at Clements Inn (Room No. 72), on Wednesday, December 13, at 7 p.m., when the subject for discussion will be "The Present Political Situation." Many thanks to friends who have generously contributed Jumble Sale parcels. These may be sent at any time to Miss Maguire, at above address. Members who are unable to take part in militant work are asked to devote an evening or two a week to paper-selling at the Liverpool Street and Ludgate Hill pitches.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

President—Mrs. Cecil Chapman.
 Office—5, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge (opposite Tube Station).
 Successful meetings have been held at Folkestone, Rye, and Basing. Good work is being done and many converts made. Mrs. Mansel speaks at the Tuesday At Home on the need of the vote now. Mrs. Forsyth acting as hostess. Members and friends are reminded that the Christmas sale takes place on December 12. Gifts are still needed and will be thankfully received. They should be sent to the secretary.

SPEAKERS' CLASS.

Hon. Education Mistress—Miss Rosa Leo, 45, Ashworth Mansions, Edgware Avenue, W.
 Hon. Secretary—Miss Hale, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.
 There will be no class to-night, owing to the Christmas Eve and Fair. Next week the subject will be, "Why do you consider that the policy of the W.S.P.U. with regard to the Manhood Suffrage Bill is right?" It is hoped that members will carefully study the subject in the meantime. Miss Leo's private classes take place every Saturday at 4 p.m., and every Tuesday at 7.45 p.m., by kind permission of Mrs. Ayton at 41, Norfolk Square, Hyde Park, W. All communications concerning these classes should be addressed to Miss Rosa Leo, and these about the public ones to Miss Hale. It must be clearly understood that both these classes are open to members of the W.S.P.U. only.

RULES.

1. Members of the W.S.P.U. only are eligible.
2. The Class is held at 4, Clements Inn, Room 72, every Friday, at 7.45 p.m. sharp.
3. Entrance fee, 3d. weekly, proceeds to be used for the purchase of educational literature.
4. The Library books are only to be kept one week, and must be returned or sent by post before the next class.
5. Members are limited to ten classes, and it must be clearly understood that no one shall be admitted to these classes except intending speakers.

CATHOLIC W.S. SOCIETY.

Hon. Treasurer—Miss Monica Whately, Office—51, Blandford Street, Baker Street.
 Members are asked to make known the new address. Office hours 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, or any other day by appointment. A drawing-room meeting will be held, by kind permission of Miss Ayton, at 2, Gordon Place, on Dec. 9, at 3 p.m. Miss Smyth-Pigott in the chair; speaker, Miss Lynch. Invitations may be had from the ticket secretary, Miss Gadsby. A large drawing-room meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 15, by kind permission of the Hon. Mrs. Fitzgerald, at 2, Manson Place, Queen's Gate. Miss Abadam has kindly consented to speak. Those wishing to attend should apply for invitations early. Funds are needed for rent and office expenses. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Meynell, 21s.; Miss Olivia, 6s.; Mrs. Roeb, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Silk, 2s. 6d.; Miss Agnes Murphy, 5s.; collection at Miss Fiddler's At Home, 16s. 3d.; Anon., per Miss Smyth-Pigott, 25s.; A. S. Blount, Esq., 2s. 6d.; Miss O'Connor, 10s.

WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

Central Office: 10, Talbot House, St. Martin's Lane.
 On Wednesday, November 29, Miss Jessie Green, of 14, Warwick Crescent, Paddington, gave a drawing-room meeting as a sequel to the sale of her diamond brooch for tax resistance last May. Mrs. Cecil Chapman presided, and Mrs. Kineton Parkes moved the resolution which was carried unanimously. On Friday, December 1, Mrs. Herberston, of Oxford, gave a drawing-room meeting, and invited suffragists of all shades of opinion. Mrs. Louis Fagan and Mrs. Kineton Parkes were the speakers, and after a most interesting discussion the resolution was carried unanimously.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Office—11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.
 Fri., Dec. 15.—Alan's, 283, Oxford Street, "Working Women and the Vote." Miss Ruth Young, Hon. Mrs. Henley, Mrs. Lucy Henderson, 8 p.m.
 Tues., Dec. 19.—Will be observed as a Quiet Day in London, conducted by Rev. Father Conran, S.S.J.E. The General Council will be held at Oxford on Jan. 25.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

2, Robert Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone: City 1214.
 President—Mrs. Forbes Robertson.
 Organising Secretary—Miss G. M. Conolan.
 The following resolution was passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the League on November 28:—"Seeing that the

Mustard is nature's condiment—a pure, natural stimulator of the appetite—a natural aid to digestion. The "Mustard habit" is a salutary habit.

Health depends largely upon the proper digestion and assimilation of the food we eat. Good mustard promotes both; by its aid to the enjoyment of the food, and by its action on the food. So important a factor should be the best, should, in fact be

Colman's Mustard

Conciliation Bill offered by Mr. Asquith to the Deputation on November 17, as the solution of the Woman's Suffrage Movement, has since been declared by Mr. Lloyd George to be "torpedoed," the Actresses' Franchise League expresses its profound indignation at the manner in which this great Imperial question is being handled by the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer. It demands:—(1.) That women, as equal human beings to men, as of equal importance to the State and equal supporters of the State, shall be given equal rights and dignities and be incorporated by the Government in the coming Reform Bill on equal terms with men. (2.) It further demands that the Government face the question in open, honest fashion, shall cease to quibble and shall cease to blame the Lords for this long delayed measure of Justice, which the Government has itself blocked three times on its passage to the Lords. (3.) Finally it calls upon the Government to bow to the will of the people, who, through their representatives, have passed three Woman's Suffrage Bills by large majorities, three times within the last three years.

The Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant was filled to overflowing on Friday afternoon, when Miss Rosa Leo opened the proceedings by singing "The Awakening," a feature of the programme which was much appreciated.
 Miss Janet Steer, who presided, struck a note of deep earnestness, as she appealed to her audience to follow in the footsteps of the women who had protested against the Government's action. Lady Chance told an amusing story of the ignorance of a male voter, and suggested that women might be, at least, equally intelligent. Miss Christabel Pankhurst dealt with the political situation in a rousing speech, which, in spite of a few male interruptions, won the prolonged applause of her hearers. She explained the reason for the recurrence of militant tactics, and demanded that the Government should stand or fall by the measure of Woman's Suffrage. Mr. Campbell Johnston said that he was a Tory candidate in favour of women having the vote, and that he was quite convinced that in the near future they would win. The third Birthday Party of the League will take place at the Criterion Restaurant on Friday, December 15, at 2.30 p.m. There will be a musical and dramatic entertainment, organised by the play department. Among those who have already promised their services are: Madame Alice Esly, Miss Fanny Wentworth, Miss Christine Hawkes, Miss Maria Cunningham, Miss Grace Jean Crocker, Miss Marjorie Burke, and Mrs. Saba Raleigh. Tickets, including tea and entertainment, 1s. each, may be obtained from the Office, 2, Robert Street, Strand, or at the Criterion on the day.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR W.S.

Hon. Organising Secs. (pro tem.)—Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, 4, Cholmsley Park, Highgate, N.
 Hon. Corresponding Secretary—Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove.

The speakers at the East Ham and Sherwood meetings were John Free, Esq., Mrs. Whitton, Mr. T. C. Coedee, and Mrs. Gladstone. A drawing-room meeting will be held at 23, Slathwaite Road, Lewisham, on December 12, at 8 p.m. Speaker, Miss Hessel. The general secretaries are starting a forward movement, and ask for help in work and money.

A CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The International Suffrage Shop are having a Christmas Party on Saturday and Sunday, December 16 and 17. Miss Edith Craig, Miss J. Dorynne, Miss Auriol Lee, Miss Winifred Mayo, Miss Cicely Hamilton, Mr. Nigel Playfair and others have kindly promised to take part. Two interesting items will be the Old Curiosity Shop organised by Miss Edith Craig, and the Wax Work Shows by Miss Cicely Hamilton and others. There will be other interesting side shows. Send to the International Suffrage Shop, 15, Adam Street, Strand, for a programme.

IRISH WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Office—Antient Concert Buildings, 64, Brunswick Street, Dublin.

There was a large and interested audience on Tuesday, November 23, to hear Dr. Clery (University College, Dublin) lecture on "The Religious Aspect of Woman Suffrage." Mrs. Quinn, who presided, spoke of the

recent militant protest, and announced the prisoners' welcome meeting for December 5. The lecturer said that the recent proposal to institute manhood suffrage had set many people to do their political sums anew. Women were more spiritual than men, and their point of view was more than ever needed to balance male democracy. It was time that the churches of every denomination rallied to the support of woman in her demand for a voice in legislation for humanity. Miss Agnes Murphy said she hoped the clergy realised that theirs was not a narrow party campaign, but a spiritual movement in which was the fervour of a deep religious feeling. Rev. Father O'Ryan, C.O., said he believed every woman ought to have a vote and dwell on the iniquity of sweating. Mrs. Davis, Mr. Carpenter, Miss Tatlow, Mr. Bridgeman and Miss Laird also contributed to the discussion. On Saturday December 2, a drawing-room meeting was held to welcome Miss Vida Goldstein on her way through Dublin. Miss Goldstein delivered an interesting address on the influence of the women's vote in Australia. A Jumble Sale will be held on December 16, and will be the last public function before Christmas. Members and friends are appealed to for parcels of old household utensils, clothes, pictures, &c. These will also be a stall for flowers, home-made jam and home produce, which we hope will be generously equipped.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Lovers of the beautiful old operas will be grateful to Mr. Hammerstein for the season which he has inaugurated at popular prices in his beautiful new Opera House in Kingsway. "Quo Vadis?" "William Tell," "Norma," and "Rigoletto" have already been revived, and we are promised a long list including all the masterpieces. In the London Opera House both the musical and the scenic effects are brought to a high pitch of perfection.

At an At Home of the Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Committee, kindly given by Lady Stout on November 16, an interesting discussion arose on the attitude of the Committee during the present crisis in the women's movement in London. The majority of those present maintained that as long as men have so preponderating an influence in Imperial legislation, the first work of the Committee was to aid the women of Great Britain to gain the franchise.

The Dover Association of the N.U.T. passed by a large majority the resolution expressing sympathy with those members of the N.U.T. who desire to possess and exercise the Parliamentary Franchise, but because they are women, and for that reason alone, are by law debarred from it.

The annual meeting of the Penal Reform League will be held in Carlton Hall, Westminster, today, Friday, at 8 p.m., Sir John Macdonell in the chair. Dr. Jane Walker, Mr. Cecil Chapman, Miss Kirby, Sec. N.A.F.M., Mr. F. Ludlow, Mrs. Bramwell Booth, and Mr. George Montagu will be the speakers.

The £10 prize offered by the Women Writers' Suffrage League for the best one-act play dealing with the Woman's Movement has been awarded to Miss Violet Pearn, for "The Will and the Power."

A CORRECTION.

In our "Items of Interest" last week we said that the London Graduates' Union for Woman Suffrage had passed a resolution calling upon the Government to substitute for the proposed Reform Bill a measure giving equal franchise rights to men and women. The word committee was inadvertently omitted. It should have been the Committee of the London Graduates' Union.

An interesting correspondence arising out of the revival of militant tactics is being carried on in the Yorkshire Post.

Two interesting lectures will be given under the auspices of the National Health Society, 53, Berners Street, Oxford Street, London, W., today, Friday, by J. E. Squire, Esq., C.B., M.D., F.R.C.P., at 3.30 p.m., and by Mrs. Scharlieb, M.S., M.D., at 5 p.m. Further particulars may be had from the Secretary, 53, Berners Street.



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MEN'S POLITICAL UNION

For Women's Emancipation.

Office: 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone—City 6979.

Hon. Organising Sec.—Victor D. Duval.

A complimentary dinner to the Duval family, five of whom were arrested and four imprisoned in connection with the Parliament Square demonstration on November 22, is being arranged by this Union and will be held on the evening of Wednesday, December 23. Fuller particulars will be given next week. Meanwhile, as the number of tickets is limited, application for these, price five shillings each, should be made without delay to the dinner secretary at above address. A full account of Mr. Victor Duval's trial at Bow Street appears on another page, and all friends and sympathisers are asked to help to make this dinner a great success and give a record welcome to Mrs. Duval and her son and daughters. The hon. treasurer urgently appeals for funds in aid of this Union's forthcoming winter campaign in Greater London, and to meet the increased office expenses which the growth of the Union entails. Grateful thanks for the following sums received:—

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|----|---|
| Amount already acknowledged | £1,151 | 8 | 0 |
| F. H. W. Mendel, Esq. | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| G. Todd, Esq. | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Albert H. Lowy, Esq. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| F. W. Pethick Lawrence, Esq. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss E. W. Davidson | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Miss F. H. Hail | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Anon. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Rosa Lee | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Mrs. I. H. Leo | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| "In gratitude for Bath Protest" | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| "Because she went" | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| C. Heim, Esq. | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Clement H. Whitley, Esq. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Miss Una Dugdale (Fair and Fete) | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| H. Arncliffe Sennett, Esq. | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| Mrs. Janet A. Boyd | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Dr. Hanson | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| Capt. C. M. Goode | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Mark Wilks, Esq. | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| Mrs. F. G. Heburn | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Hugh A. Franklin, Esq. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| "In aid of Militancy" | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Collect on at the Steinway Hall | 3 | 15 | 2 |
| Membership fees | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Total | £1,182 | 8 | 8 |

THE LOWER DEPTHS.

The under-world with all its awful horror and helplessness could not be more realistically portrayed than it is at the Kingsway Theatre. The curtain rises on an underground night shelter, where the droops of life are congregated. There is no plot or change of scene, for Gertrude's *Lower Depths* only pictures life at its lowest. In the group gathered there we have many types of humanity represented. Some of them have seen better days, and now and again one gets a glimpse of a longing after something higher than the awful "ordid viciousness of the life they are living." But these glimpses are only noticeable after these men and women have come into contact with the kindly apostle of love and pity—the tramp Lulu, who goes about speaking words of encouragement to the despairing, trying by patience to reconcile the scoffers, comforting the woman who lies coughing her life away amid the drunken noise and riot, and showing a fatherly sympathy with the unfortunate Nasty. This is the only brightness in the play, but we congratulate Lydia Yarvank (Nasty) and her company on the wonderful way in which they make the awful scenes live.

VEDA BREAD.

The Veda Bread Company are sending a present of thirty-six loaves to the prisoners in Holloway. Veda Bread is very popular with members of the W.S.P.U., and is on sale at some of the local unions. On the steps leading to the Refreshment room at the Christmas Fair, a peasant woman is also to be seen offering Veda Bread for sale.

WOMEN AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Countess of Aberdeen was recently installed as the first lady President of the Royal Institute of Public Health Congress. In the course of a speech Lady Aberdeen said she regarded her appointment as a flattering and encouraging recognition of the work of women in the cause of public health. There is, she said, a great call to women to come forward to do their part in the building up of the health and prosperity of the country. The truth is, if they desire to have any great movement popularised, and made to enter into the habits and homes of the people, they must have the women with them, or they would fail.

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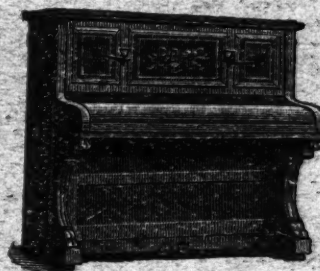
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All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday afternoon. Address, the Advertisement Manager, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LOST.—November 7, at the Pavilion meeting (dress circle), pair of gold glasses in crimson case. Please return to Box 192, 4, Clements Inn, Strand.

MISS NELLIE SARGENT.—Steinway Hall. Evening of Recitation and Song. December 12, 8.15. Tickets, 7s. 6d., 5s., 3s. 1s., at Hall, or Miss Nellie Sargent, 8, Middleton Road, Camden Road, N.

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EUSTON SQUARE, 19, adjoining Euston Station; 3 minutes Kings Cross and St. Pancras. Bedroom, breakfast, bath, attendance, 3s. 6d. single; 6s. double. References given.

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THE New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage, 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, require a Speaking Organiser. — Apply 11 till 1, or 2 till 5 p.m.

WANTED.—Lady-General to do entire work of small six-roomed cottage. Two in family. Suffragist. Wages £16. — James, Rosedean Cottage, West Drayton.

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LARGE Fat Roasting Fowls, 4s. pair; Ducks, 4s. 6d.; Fatted Geese, 4s. 6d. each; best Turkeys, 6s. each; trussed; post paid. — Miss O'Donoghue, Convent Road, Roscarberry, Cork.

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SEND FOR LIST AND CUTTINGS (POST FREE), 245, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.